

Hampshire



BEAUTIES
OF
England and Wales.

HAMPSHIRE.

THE *Aborigines* or original inhabitants of HAMPSHIRE, who had migrated from the Continent in the first ages of the population of Europe, appear to have been dispossessed by the *Belgæ*, who were originally of German extraction, but had crossed the Rhine into Gaul, and thence extended their conquests into Britain, between two and three centuries prior to the arrival of Cæsar. They consisted of various clans, distinguished by their several names; but that which had proved itself the most valiant, retained the national name of *Belgæ*, without any adjunct, in token of pre-eminence. This tribe seated itself in the central parts of Hampshire, and, previous to the Roman invasion, had attacked and driven out the *Segontiaci*, who inhabited the northern extremity of Hampshire, and the adjoining parts of Berkshire, bordering on the river Kennet.

The primary name of Hampshire was *Gwent*, or *Y Went*, a term descriptive of its open downs, and hence the appellation *Caer Gwent*, or City of the Gwentians, now Winchester. The Lower Gwentians, or *Segontiaci*, derived their name from *Isgwent*, *Isgwentwg*, or *Isgwentog*, terms allusive to their relative situations

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* "The meaning of the name of *Belgæ* seems to be preserved in the Welsh: *Belg* implies that which breaks out, makes irruptions or ravages: so *Belgau*, *Belgiaid*, *Belgwyr*, *Belgwys*, and *Gwyr Belg*, might be rendered irruptors, depredators, ravagers, or warriors."

Cambrian Register, Vol. II. p. 6.

to the proper Gwentians, and had *Vindonum*, or Silchester, for their chief city.

Between the period of the arrival of Cæsar, and that of the entire subjugation of Britain by the Romans, the Belgæ had obtained dominion over the greatest part of the tract stretching between the British Channel and the Severn; but being at length subdued by the Romans under Vespasian, their country was included in the province named BRITANNIA PRIMA. On the departure of the Romans, the government of Hampshire reverted to the Britons, who bravely defended themselve [illegible] Saxon powers for many years; but their united forc [illegible] atanleod, were at length defeated by Cerdic, in a gene [illegible] fought in the New Forest. The Saxon chief pursuing his victory, founded the kingdom of the West Saxons, making Winchester his residence and capital; and in that city, Egbert, his descendant, caused himself to be crowned *King of all England*. Under the Saxon domination, the original name of the country was changed into *Hantunscyre*, from which its present appellation is evidently derived.

Hampshire is bounded on the east by Surrey and Sussex; on the south by the British Channel; on the west by Wiltshire and Dorsetshire; and on the north by Berkshire. It extends in length, from north to south, about fifty-five miles; in breadth, from east to west, about forty: its circumference is about 150 miles. Its figure approaches nearest to that of a square; with a triangular projection at the south-west angle. In the survey drawn up for the Board of Agriculture, its superficial contents are estimated at 1,812,000 acres, but this is probably an exaggerated calculation. Its limits on the south side, are the numerous creeks and inlets formed by the sea; on the west and east they are mostly artificial; on the north, they are chiefly composed by the rivers Enborn and Blackwater. It is divided into thirty-nine hundreds, containing 253 parishes,* one city, twenty market-towns, and about 1000 villages. The number of houses, according to the population act, amounts to 39,257 · the number of inhabitants to 219,656: of the latter 105,667 are males, and 113,989 females. The whole county, together

* Driver's Agricultural Survey.

together with the Isles of Wight, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, and Alderney, are comprehended within the diocese of Winchester. Its parliamentary representatives are twenty, exclusive of those for Newtown, Newport, and Yarmouth, in the Isle of Wight; viz. two for the shire, and two for each of the following places; Winchester, Southampton, Portsmouth, Petersfield, Stockbridge, Christchurch, Lymington, Whitchurch, and Andover.

The surface of Hampshire is beautifully varied with gently rising hills, and fruitful vallies, adorned with numerous seats and villages, and interspersed with extensive woodlands. Its southern parts were the first peopled, and there the population is still the greatest; the mildness of the seasons, and the convenience of the ports, operating as strong inducements to continued residence. The chief part of the county is inclosed; though large tracts of open heath, and uncultivated land, remain in the vicinity of Christchurch, and on the borders of Dorsetshire. The aggregate extent of the waste lands, exclusive of the forests, is supposed to include between 90 and 100,000 acres. The *Soils* are extremely numerous, but the far greatest proportion is tending to chalk; and a ridge of chalk hills, or downs, may be traced across the county, in the parallel of Winchester. On the north side, bordering on Berkshire, the soil is deep, and very productive: here, great quantities of corn are annually grown, and the elm and oak flourish greatly; though the latter, in many instances, has been originally transplanted. On the acclivities of the hills towards Basingstoke, the land is in general very deep, and strong, with chalk beneath: round Whitchurch it is less deep, and chalky, but produces good crops of corn, and saintfoin. From Overton towards Stockbridge, and thence to Redbridge, a beautiful vale extends, divided into well-watered meadows, and producing from two to three loads of hay per acre. Round Andover the land is high, and down-like; yet the soil, though thin, is very favorable to the growth of barley: towards Romsey, it is yet more fertile; and the land is well cultivated, and interspersed with woods, and fine hedge-row timber. South and south-west of Romsey, the country is principally occupied by the *New Forest;* though very large open tracts still remain,

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as already stated, on the borders of Dorsetshire, and in the neighbourhood of Christchurch: the soil of the New Forest is chiefly loam and gravel. The vicinity of Redbridge is distinguished for its valuable salt-marshes. The parishes eastward of Alton, and bordering on Surrey, are chiefly appropriated to the growth of hops, the plantations of which have been greatly increased of late years, through the reputation of the *Farnham* hops; yet, though equally good, and produced in contiguous grounds, such is the fascination of a name, that the price they bear at market, is generally from forty to fifty shillings per hundred weight below those with the Farnham mark. The hop grounds are supposed to occupy about 800 acres: the produce varies considerably, but on an average, may be estimated at about five cwt. per acre. Towards Petersfield the land is more open, with a considerable quantity of down; approaching Portsmouth, it is more inclosed, and interspersed with timber and underwood. Round Fareham and Warnford the hills are chalky, and partly covered with beech wood: here also are extensive downs; and on the banks of the river Itchin are some valuable water meadows.*

The rotation of crops, on the more rich or low lands, is generally wheat, turnips, barley with seeds, and mowed; the average produce, is from thirty to thirty-two bushels an acre: on the high grounds, the average produce of wheat is about sixteen bushels per acre; of barley, twenty-two bushels; and of oats, twenty-four bushels.

* "This county," observes the author of the Agricultural Survey, "is particularly famous for water meadows; which are extremely productive, and, in general, well attended to. The farmers are, in many instances, at considerable expence in purchasing a supply of water, besides the first expence; which is from five to six pounds per acre, exclusive of the continual repair of the sluices, &c. They are usually shut up in November, or the beginning of December, and are watered alternately every other week, till the beginning of March, when they are fed off, for about five or six weeks, with ewes and lambs: the water is afterwards turned on as before, till the meadows are fit to be mowed, [illegible] in general, they produce from two to three loads per acre, and [illegible]uently cut twice in a season."

bushels. Pease, rye-grass, trefoil, saintfoin, white and red clover, are also much cultivated. The principal *Manures*, are peat ashes, chalk, or lime, marle, and sea-weed. The system of drill husbandry is but little practised. The plough, on the heavy lands, is mostly drawn by four horses; light ploughing is performed by a single-wheeled plough, and two or three horses. The team-horses are particularly fine; the farmers vying with each other in the appearance of their cattle.

Hampshire has obtained considerable repute as a breeding country, and particularly of *Sheep* and Hogs. The original Hampshire sheep is horned, and white faced; and though this breed has been much improved, the South-down has been introduced of late years, and obtained the preference in many parts; as they are found to fatten on a less quantity of food. The flocks are in general very large; and the downs are mostly covered with them: the whole number of sheep annually fed in the county, is supposed to amount to 350,000. In the uplands, the practice of folding is pretty general; yet, in the lower parts, it is little attended to. For its breed of *Hogs*, Hampshire is proverbially famous; and this breed is of the largest kind, the farmers encouraging it as the most profitable. Those in the vicinity of the forests are principally fed on acorns, and beech-mast, which give them a superiority over most others in the kingdom; and their weight is from sixteen to forty score. Formerly, these animals were chiefly killed for bacon; but of late years, great numbers of those for home consumption, have been pickled down in large tubs; about three pecks of salt, and a quarter of a pound of saltpetre, are allotted to a hog of twenty score. The bones and the lean are previously taken away: and the fat being suffered to continue in the brine, nearly a whole year before it is used, becomes more firm, and goes further. Many *Horses* are bred in the forests, but they are in general extremely small; and from the scantiness of their food, have the appropriate appellation of heath-croppers. The *Cows* are not of any particular character; the Welsh breed has been lately introduced; yet as the dairies are but few, not much attention is given to their improvement. Many hives of *Bees* are kept in different parts of the county; the

1 honey

honey is in general of a fine flavour; and particularly that made by the bees who obtain their food from the downs.

A considerable quantity of land in this county is held under the Bishop of Winchester, as well as under the Dean and Chapter, upon lease for twenty-one years, renewable every seven on paying a fine; which is injudiciously increased in proportion to the improvements that have been made. Many estates belonging to other persons, are also held on lease for three lives, not renewable; and others expire at a certain time, or at the death of a tenant; customs that tend very much to prevent improvements.

A very considerable proportion of Hampshire is occupied by the Forest of *Alice Holt and Woolmer,* the Forest of Bere, and the New Forest. The former is separated into two portions, by intervening private property: its limits comprehend about 15,493 acres; 8694 of which belong to the Crown. On a survey made of the timber of this Forest, in the year 1608, 1301 oak trees were returned as fit for the use of the navy; and 23,934 loads, as defective: this quantity has since greatly decreased; and in 1783, the sound and defective wood together, amounted to only 15,142 loads; and those were of trees mostly of one age, that is from 100 to 120 years, without any having been planted to succeed them. In the division called Alice Holt, which contains about 2744 acres of Crown lands, the growing timber has, by a late valuation, been estimated at 60,000l. worth. This Forest is situated on the borders of Surrey and Sussex. The *Forest of Bere* extends northward from the Portsdown Hills, and, according to the perambulation made in the year 1688, and now considered as the boundary, it includes about 16,000 acres, of which one third is inclosed. This Forest is divided into two walks, respectively named East and West, to each of which are annexed several smaller divisions, called purlieus, though not properly so, as all of them are subject to the forest laws. From a survey of the timber in this Forest, in the year 1783, it appears that the quantity then growing, was only a twenty-eighth part of what was standing in the year 1608; and from the many encroachments made in modern times, its boundaries were continually decreasing. It contains about 200 head of deer, from

 which

which about seven brace of bucks are annually killed. The officers of this Forest, are a Warden, four Verderers, two Master Keepers, two Under Keepers, a Ranger, a Steward of the Swainmote Court, twelve Regarders, and two Agistors. The *New Forest* is particularly celebrated in history, from the vast enlargement of it by William the Conqueror, and from its being the scene of the accidental death of his successor, William Rufus. Its present appellation has an evident reference to the alteration made in its extent by the Conqueror; but a more ancient name of this district was *Itene*, or *Y-Thene*: it was also called *Natanleod*, from the British chieftain, who was here conquered by Cerdic, the founder of the West Saxon Monarchy. The importance of this tract is too great to be passed over cursorily; and a more extended description will be inserted under that part of the county which it occupies.

The Mineral productions of Hampshire are but few; and those mostly confined to the cliffs on the sea coast, particularly in the neighbourhood of Lymington, Hordwell, and Christchurch. The cliffs near Hordwell are upwards of 100 feet high, and abound with large nodules of iron ore, and pebbles, or flints; many of which contain fossil shells, or their impressions, of various and scarce species. These are found in a bluish kind of clay, or marle, which extends beneath a stratum of sand and gravel, about fourteen or fifteen feet thick, and reaches below the level of the sea. Many specimens of these shells were deposited in the British Museum, by the late Gustavus Brander, Esq. who published a description of them under the title of *Fossilia Hantoniensia*.

The *Manufactures* of this county are but few; and those are chiefly of cloth, as shaloons, and coarse woollens. Large quantities of malt are annually made at Andover; and at Wey-Hill, in its neighbourhood, is held the greatest fair in England for hops, sheep, cheese, and some other commodities. At Lymington is a manufacture of salt; but this business has much decreased from what it was formerly.

The principal RIVERS in Hampshire, are the Itchin, the Avon, the Boldre Water, the Exe, the Anton, and the Tese, or Test; several

veral smaller streams rise in the north-west parts, but soon quit the county in their passage to the Thames.

The *Itchin* has its source in the vicinity of Alresford, near the middle of Hampshire, and being soon increased by the Alne, flows westward to King's Worthy; where suddenly turning to the south, it passes Winchester, and the Hospital of St. Cross. Thence gliding through fertile meadows, it flows by Twyford, and passing Bishopstoke, hastens to unite its stream with the Southampton Water, which it falls into about half a mile eastward from the town.

The *Avon* enters the county from Wiltshire, and meandering in several channels near the western edge of the New Forest, is much increased by different rivulets rising in that district. This part of its course is well wooded, and much enlivened by the villas that ornament its banks. Passing Fordingbridge and Ringwood, it flows through a less interesting sandy level towards Christchurch; below which it receives the waters of the Stour from Dorsetshire, and conveys them with it to the sea in Christchurch Bay.

The *Boldre Water* is formed by various springs, that rise in the New Forest, and mostly unite above Brokenhurst; whence they, in a single stream, pass Boldre, and Lymington, to the sea. The *Exe* also has its source in the same district, and beginning to widen near Beaulieu, opens in a broad estuary to the sea below Exbury.

The *Anton* rises in the north-west angle of the county, and flowing through part of Andover, has its stream increased by the Tillhill Brook; and afterwards runs into the Tese, about one mile below Whirwell. The *Tese* has its origin in the neighbourhood of Whitchurch, and after its junction with the Anton, assumes a southerly course, and passing Stockbridge and Romsey, receives several small rills from the New Forest, near Redbridge; below which it opens, and forms the head of the *Southampton Water*. This is properly an arm of the sea, extending from above Southampton to Calshot Castle, and rendered exceedingly picturesque by its woody and irregular banks. Near *Hamble*, it is joined by the river of that name, which, swelling from an inconsiderable stream into a broad estuary, descends into it from the interior of Hampshire.

WINCHESTER.

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THIS eminent and very ancient city, stands on the eastern declivity of a hill, gradually sloping to the river Itchin, the chalky cliffs of which, combined with the whiteness of the surrounding soil, is affirmed by Camden to have occasioned its original name, which was *Caer Gwent*, or the *White City*, an appellation that, from similar circumstances, was also bestowed on two other British cities, viz. *Venta Silurum*, in Monmouthshire, and *Venta Icenorum*, in Norfolk. Its present name is most probably a corruption from *Gwent-chestre;* and was not derived, as commonly imagined, from the fact of a royal weavery being established here under the Roman Emperors.

The early history of Winchester is involved in all the confusion of those distant ages, which, from the numerous romantic legends interwoven with their records, have been truly termed fabulous. Its origin, unquestionably remote as it is, has been carried to an era far beyond belief, and even made antecedent to the foundation of Rome itself, by a period of nearly one hundred and forty years.*

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* "We have been told by former historians, that this city was built by a King of Britain, named Ludor Rous Hudibrass, 892 years before the birth of Christ, or 139 years before the foundation of Rome: but the very existence of such a King, as the above named, rests upon no better foundation than certain romantic tales, invented fifteen hundred years after the period in question, by British writers, in order to prove that their ancestors, no less than the Romans, were descended from the heroes of Troy. We cannot admit, as a real historical fact, that Winchester was founded by this pretended Monarch of our Island, without also believing that London was built by a supposed great grandson of Æneas, called Brutus, as a substitute for the ancient Troy, after having conquered all Greece, and the greatest part of Gaul; and that Bath was built and enriched with the inextinguishable fire of Minerva, by Bladud, the son and successor of our Hudibrass; with many other fables equally romantic, which all rest on the same authority."

History, Civil and Ecclesiastical, &c. of Winchester; by the Rev. J. Milner, M. A. F. S. A.

The celebrated Dunwallo Mulmutius, who is represented as contemporary with Darius of Persia,* has been also brought in to embellish its history, and he is recorded as having erected its walls, though on the same insufficient evidence, as ascribes its origin to Hudibrass, eighth in succession from Brute, or Brutus, a supposed great grandson of Æneas of Troy.

"After our city is stripped of all these false honors," observes Mr. Milner, "she will nevertheless still retain a well-founded claim to as high an antiquity as that of perhaps any other city within the compass of the Island. It is clear, both from argument and authority,† that South Britain, at least, was first peopled from the opposite coast of Gaul, and particularly from the Armorican coast of the Celtic Gauls, whom, in language, manners, and religion, they so much resembled; that the southern coast of the same was first inhabited, and that thence population gradually spread itself into other parts of the country.‡ This being so, and the relative situation of the twenty-eight original British cities considered,§ we can have no difficulty in pronouncing that the first Celtic settlers, embarking at the nearest Armorican port to Britain, that of the Unelli,

* Galfrid.—Rudb. dicet.—De Reg. Brit.—Mat. West. Æt. V.

† "Cæsar gives no opinion of his own concerning the first inhabitants of Britain, he only reports their own accounts, which were so agreeable to their superstition, and to their prejudices against the new colonies from Belgium. Tacitus having considered this matter, concludes as follows: "In universum æstimanti Gallos vicinum solum occupasse credibile est." Bede says; "In primis hæc insula Britones solum, a quibus nomen accepit, incolas habuit, qui de *Tractu Armoricano*, ut fertur, Britanniam advecti, australes sibi partes illius vindicarunt." The same is the sense of the Saxon Chronicle, according to its true reading; as also amongst modern writers, as Camden, Borlase, Whitaker," &c.

‡ "Cum plurimam insulæ partem [*Cincipientes ab austro*] Britones possedissent," &c. Bede, Ecc. Hist. lib. 1. c. 1.

§ Gildas, Hist. c. 1.—Nennius, Hist. c. lxv.—Bede, Hist. c. 1.—Rudb. Hist. Major. c. 11.

Unelli, or Cherburg, from the vicinity of which they must often have seen the white cliffs of the Isle of Wight, landed, and established themselves at Caer Peris, or Porchester, the only ancient city which is actually on this coast. From thence, proceeding up the country in a north-west direction, they could not overlook that beautiful and commodious spot, which possessed the several advantages within itself, or close to it, of a well-watered valley, and of fertile fields, for their own support, and that of their valuable flocks; of extensive downs interspersed with covers proper for the chase;* and of shady forests† necessary for defence, and for the mysterious rights of the Druidical religion: here then they made their chief settlement on the southern coast."‡

The Celtic Britons being afterwards dispossessed by the Belgæ, Winchester became, as already stated, the chief city of that nation in this Island, and retained its pre-eminence till the Belgæ were finally subdued by Vespasian, and their capital submitted to the Roman arms. Afterwards, about the year 50. all the Belgic cities of note, between the Anton, or Southampton river, and the Severn, were fortified in a regular manner, by P. Ostorius Scapula, and garrisoned to defend the country from the incursions of the yet unconquered Britons. "This then is the proper period to which the regular construction of our city, in a square form, which was that of the Roman camps in general, is to be ascribed, together with the city walls, composed of flints and strong mortar, the substance of which, after so many repairs and alterations, still remains.§ These fortifications were not raised, except for the purpose

* "Vita omnis in venationibus." Cæs. Bell. Gal. l. vi.

† "The forests, indeed, round this city, have been destroyed as cultivation increased; but authority proves that there must have been much wood here, and experience proves that the soil in general is favorable to its growth."

‡ History &c. of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 4. 5.

§ "The opinion that the substance of a considerable part of our city walls is of the period here assigned to them, will receive great suppo[rt]

pose of being defended by a garrison: hence there can be no doubt but that some Roman legion, or some cohorts, were then stationed in this city. These troops, according to their usual custom, had their Castrum Æstivum, or summer encampment, in the neighbourhood, as well as their winter quarters in the city itself. We accordingly find the vestiges of this encampment in the situation where we should naturally look for them, on the singular peninsulated hill, within a mile of the city, called St. Catherine Hill, which communicates with the Roman road between Porchester and Winchester on one side, and with the river which washes its foot on the other. On the top of this hill we discern the dimensions and form of the said Castrum in the bold intrenchment which still surrounds it, and which approaches to the Roman quadrangular shape, as nearly as the figure of the hill would admit."* By the Romans the name of the city was changed from Caer Gwent to *Venta Belgarum*: many traces of the roads made to the surrounding stations, during the period of their occupation, are still visible, and particularly of those which conduct to *Vindonum*, or Silchester, and *Sorbiodunum*, or Old Sarum: two temples, the one consecrated to Concord, the other to Apollo, are also recorded to have been built here, by the Romans, in the vicinity of the Cathedral.† Roman sepulchres have also been discovered within these few years just without the walls of the city, both to the east and to the north; in nine of these that were opened in the year 1789, human bones were found; and five of the number contained urns of black pottery, exceedingly well shaped and tempered, one of them being fluted, and the rest plain. A coin apparently

from comparing the same with the still existing walls of Silchester, which city we know was utterly destroyed soon after the Romans abandoned our island." Near the west end of the cathedral are the shattered remains of an old flint wall, which, by its mode of construction and cement, seems also to indicate Roman workmanship.

* Milner's History, Vol. I. p. 23, 24.

† Rudb. Hist. Major Hist. Wint. c. ii.

apparently of Augustus Cæsar, a Roman fibula, and some other antiquities, were also discovered in one of the sepulchres.*

From a comparative examination made by Mr. Milner, between various Roman and British authors, there is good reason to suppose, that a considerable district, of which *Venta*, or Winchester, was the capital, became the dominions of the brave Arviragus, or Caractacus, after his release by Claudius. That Emperor is recorded to have sent him back into Britain, with orders, that he should be reinstated in the government of a part of his inheritance. This was strictly in accordance with the approved policy of the Romans, in making Kings the instruments of their ambition; and Caractacus, who had also the appellation of Cogidubnus,† is thenceforth said to have become the firm ally of the Emperor, whose names he also assumed, as appears by the inscription on a stone dug up at Chichester in the beginning of the last century, in which he is literally styled, *Tiberius Claudius Cogidubnus, King and Legate of* [illegible] *Emperor in Britain.*‡ In his family the civil jurisdiction [illegible] is traditionally said to have remained till the [illegible], with whom the dynasty of British tributary Princes [illegible].

The [illegible] history of Lucius, who has been celebrated as the first [illegible] Christianity, is enveloped in a mass of legendary [illegible] and so improbable are the transactions ascribed to him, that not only the relation of his conversion to the Christian faith has been denied, but also the fact of his very existence rendered questionable. On this head, however, it has been observed, that hardly any point in our national history is more positively, unanimously, or circumstantially asserted, not less by the Britons themselves, than by the Saxon, and other antagonists of the British writers.§ Notwithstanding this evidence, it must be acknowledged,

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 27. Vol. II. p. 200.

† Conqueror of the *Dobuni*. ‡ Philosophical Transactions, No. 379.

§ "To quote the authorities on this occasion," continues Mr. Milner, "would be almost equivalent to making a list of all our ancient authors, and other ecclesiastical writers, who treat of the period in question."

acknowledged, that truth and fiction are so intimately blended in the records which relate to Lucius, that every attempt to separate them is, perhaps, impossible.

The extended sway attributed to this King at a period when the greatest part of Britain was completely subjected to the Romans, is, probably, of all the events of his history, that which renders it the most disputable. After his own baptism, and that of his Queen, and greater part of his subjects, by Faganus, or Fugatius, and Duvianus, who had been sent from Rome, for the purpose, by Pope Eleutherius, he is stated to have founded churches in each of the twenty-eight cities, which subsisted in Britain prior to the Roman Conquest, and which had subsequently "been the chief seats of the Flamines, or Pagan priests; settling upon the Christian priests, the revenues that the former had before enjoyed."

"With respect to the hierarchy to be established," continues Mr. Milner, who supports the history of Lucius to its full extent, "it seemed best to Lucius and his prelates, that the same should be observed, which before had obtained amongst the Flamines, according to which, London, York, and Caerleon, became Metropolitical Sees: hence our city of Venta, though the particular object of the regard of Lucius, and probably the capital of his dominions, was, indeed, left destitute of that pre-eminence, to which, as the chief city of the west, it was otherwise entitled; but, in return, it was honored with certain distinctions peculiar to itself. Instead of causing one of the Heathen temples in it to be purified, and consecrated, for the purpose of a Christian church, as he did in the other cities,* he built our *Cathedral* from the ground, upon a scale of grandeur and magnificence which has never since been equalled: and he bestowed upon it the right of sanctuary, with other privileges.† Moreover, as in this city had been the chief school

* "Templis Deorum a Paganosa purificatis superstitione uni Deo ejusque sanctis ecclesias dedicantes."

Rudb. Hist. Maj. Chap. 11. *ex Giraldo.*

† This Cathedral is affirmed by Rudborne, on the authenticity of Moratius, to have been 209 paces, or upwards of 600 feet, in length, [and] ninety-two paces in height.

school in the Island of the Pagan Flamines, so Lucius annexed to the Cathedral here a *Monastery,* as our historian calls it,* or rather a community of clergy, living together in common. When the Cathedral was completed, it was consecrated in the name of the Holy Saviour; and a religious Bishop, by name Denotus, was vested with the spiritual authority and jurisdiction belonging to it."†

The improbabilities of this account, circumstantial as it is, are sufficiently obvious to render it extremely disputable, even to those who are but slightly acquainted with the state of Britain at the period here spoken of; and several judicious authors regard it as altogether fabulous. The ambiguity which attends the time of the death of Lucius, as well as the place of his burial, has also been advanced as an argument against the credibility of the events recorded in his history; and it is certain that the obscurity in which these circumstances are involved, is calculated to excite considerable suspicion. A King who had become so famous as Lucius must have been, were the accounts true that Christianity was generally established throughout the Island by his means, could hardly have descended to the grave so obscurely, as to leave the period of his decease unascertained, or the place of his interment undecided. Winchester, as well as other British cities, has been assigned as the scene of the latter; but the German writers report, "that a little before his death, either resigning his Crown, on being dispossessed of it by the Romans, he went abroad, and preached the gospel in Bavaria, and in the country of the Grisons."‡

With the termination of the government of Lucius, the authority of the British Princes in this part of the Island is said to have ended, and Venta to have been thenceforth governed immediately by Roman officers. This city is also supposed to have been the principal residence of the Emperors Carausius and Allectus, who assumed the Imperial Purple in Britain, and whose coins have been dug up in greater numbers here, and in the adjoining fields, than those of any two lawful Emperors whomsoever.§

* Rudb. Hist. Maj. ex Moracio.

† Hist. of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 41, 42. ‡ Ibid p. 43.

§ Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 45.

During the latter part of the general persecution carried on against the Christians, by Dioclesian, about the end of the third, or beginning of the fourth century*, the Cathedral and Monastery attributed to Lucius, are said to have been levelled with the ground, and all the ecclesiastics either slaughtered or dispersed. The cessation of the persecution is ascribed to Constantius Chlorus, in the time of whose successor, the great Constantine, the avowed patron of the Christians, the Cathedral of Venta is stated to have been rebuilt on the site of the former one, and in a similar form, that of the cross. This second building is said to have been dedicated in honor of St. Amphibalus, a priest, and martyr, who having sought refuge in the house of St. Alban at *Werlancester*,† was discovered, and put to death; as was also his kind host, for having given him entertainment. With the new Cathedral the Monastery is presumed to have been re-established; and it aspires to the honor of having had an Emperor for one of its monks. This was Constans, son of Constantine, who, after the successful usurpation of his father, about the year 407, had been "tempted, or compelled, sacrilegiously to desert the peaceful obscurity of the monastic life,"‡ and having been invested with the Imperial Purple, had been left to command in Spain; but, on the revolt of Gerontius, his bravest general, was made prisoner, and put to death.

The increasing calamities of the Roman Empire having occasioned the withdrawing of all the Roman troops from Britain, its several provinces reverted to the governments of its native Chieftains, who appear to have maintained an independent authority, till a sense of mutual danger arising from the successful enterprises of the Scots and Picts, caused them to elect Gortheryn, or Vortigern, as their King. This

* There is a great difference in the chronology of different writers concerning the time of this persecution. Rudborne places it in his great History in 266, and less erroneously in his little History in 296. The Saxon Chronicle assigns the year 283; Matthew of Westminster 303, with whom Eusebius and Lactantius nearly agree. *Milner.*

† Now St. Albans, in Hertfordshire.

‡ Gibbon's Roman Empire, Vol. V. p. 342.

This Prince had previously ruled in the western district, and under his government Winchester became the metropolis of the Island, and was afterwards the residence of his successors, Ambrosius, and Uther Pendragon: the former is believed to have died by poison in this city.*

After the irruption of the Saxons under Cerdic, and the defeat of the united army of the Britons in the New Forest, Venta again changed masters, and became the capital of the West-Saxon kingdom. In this revolution, the Cathedral is stated to have been converted into a Heathen Temple, and made subservient to the gloomy and impure rites of Thor, Woden, Frea, and Tuisco. The name of the city itself was also changed; and from Caer Gwent, or Venta Belgarum, it became *Wintanceaster*, or Winchester. The victorious Cerdic was crowned King of the West-Saxons, in conjunction with Kynric, his son, in 519; and, after several years active warfare, in extending and preserving his conquests, he died, and was buried here in the year 534.†

B 3 From

* See Milner, Vol. I. p. 62. The authorities quoted in confirmation, are Galfrid, Mat. West. and Ranulph.

† The legendary tales attached to the History of King Lucius, are not the only fabulous relations connected with the annals of this city. The story of the British King Arthur, has, by "many a chronicler of ancient days," been particularly connected with it. and many of his exploits have been referred to this vicinity. On this head, the disquisition on the history of Arthur, by Mr. Milner, is satisfactory, and complete, and we shall take the liberty of inserting it for future reference.

"What then, it will be asked by many an admirer of the antiquities of Winchester, what then becomes of the boasted feats of the renowned Arthur, which are said to have taken place at this time in the said city, and which have hitherto been considered as its chief glory? of the castle which he built? of the round-table which he erected? of the four-and-twenty knights installed, with their splendid tilts, and tournaments held there? of his institution of parliaments, and of oaths of allegiance? and lastly, of the dreadful battle fought between Arthur and his nephew Mordred, on the adjoining downs, called Magdalen Hill, and of the final triumph of this first Christian worthy? "To

From this period Winchester continued to be the metropolis of the West Saxons; but no event of importance is recorded concerning

"To these questions, the historian, who is mindful of his first duty, namely, that which he owes to truth, will be forced to answer, that the erection of the Castle of Winchester, the invention of the round table, with the other ceremonies of chivalry, as also the institution of Parliaments, are of a later date, by many centuries, than the age of Arthur; and that the exploits of this valiant hero, and true patriot, which, according to an ancient and judicious Saxon writer, were worthy to be recorded in the faithful page of history,* have been degraded by absurd and romantic fables, originating in national and local prejudices on one side, and in ignorance and carelessness, in confounding dates and places, on the other.

"Uther Pendragon is stated to have died at St. Albans, not without suspicion of poison by the Saxons, about the time that Cerdic became master of Winchester, namely, in the year 516. On this occasion the celebrated St. Dubritius, Bishop of Caerleon, and predecessor, in the metropolitical dignity, to the great St. David, being anxious to procure a prop to his falling country, called a meeting of the British grandees and prelates, in a place the most safe from the incursions of the Saxons, namely, at *Caer Seiont*, near the modern town of Caernarvon,† where Arthur,

* "Hic est Arthurus de quo nugæ Britonum delirant: dignus plane quem non fallaces fabulæ, sed veraces historiæ prædicarent."

Gul. Malm. de Gestis Reg. Angl. l. 1

† Here occurs one of those errors which was occasioned by ignorance, or inattention, in distinguishing between places of the same name. Geoffry, of Monmouth, and Benedict, of Glocester, say, that a general meeting of the Britons was held at Silchester, in which Arthur was elected King. Now it is very improbable that such a congress could have taken place so near to the capital city of Cerdic, (had Silchester been then in being, which it was not,) at a time when, according to Mat. West. himself, the latter carried his victorious arms wherever he pleased. But Geoffry's history was collected from records written in the British language; and in this tongue there were two cities of the name of *Caer Seiont*; one near the modern town of Caernarvon; the other on the borders of Hampshire. Now that meeting of the Britons which could not have taken place in the latter county, was very likely to have taken place in the former. *Milner.*

cerning it, till the year 635, when the arrival of the apostle Birinus, whom Pope Honorius had deputed to preach the gospel in

those

Arthur, who had already given very pregnant proofs of his military talents, was chosen King, notwithstanding the illegitimacy of his birth, in preference to the children of his legitimate sister Anne, by Lothus, a Scottish chieftain, who were Mordred and Galwan. His conduct justified the expectations that were formed of him. He for several years upheld his country from sinking, and routed different bodies of the Saxons, both to the north and south of Wales, which was his peculiar demesne, as being now almost the only part of Britain which they had not overrun. Twelve of his victories are peculiarly celebrated; the last of which was his forcing the Saxons, for the second time, to raise the siege of Bath. In achieving these conquests, he was assisted not only by his own forces, but also by auxiliary troops which he procured from his allies, both within and without the Island, particularly from Hoel, the King of Britanny. We have proofs that, after many severe battles, Arthur made peace with Cerdic, the most powerful of the Saxon Kings; and it is probable that he entered into treaties with the other Princes of the same nation, upon honourable terms. This then was the period for those magnificent solemnities, and feats of arms, which we read of his celebrating; and which solemnities, in after times, agreeably to the customs then prevailing, were described to be tilts and tournaments. The actual scene of these, and the place where Arthur usually kept his court, was either Caer Gwent itself, namely, the Caer Gwent of Monmouthshire, Venta Silurum, or the adjoining city of Caerleon in Wentlend; that is to say, the territory of Venta, as the whole country thereabouts was called.* The former of these cities being quite destroyed, and the latter reduced to a mere village, the splendid scenes with which Arthur had ennobled them, were, through ignorance or flattery, transferred to our Caer Gwent, at a time

* Whenever the name *Caer Gwent* occurred in the British songs or records, it was of course written in Latin, *Venta*, or *Wintonia*, by Geoffry, Mat. of Westminster, and others; which appellations, at the time we are speaking of, were exclusively applied to our city. An opinion having thus prevailed, that King Arthur had kept his court here, the ancient Castle was assigned for his place of residence, which, in the next place, it was asserted that he had built; and of course he was asserted to have set up the round table which was found there. See *John Stow, Annals, &c.*

those parts of Britain that were still involved in Paganism, materially changed the state of affairs. Birinus is stated to have obtained a favorable reception at the Court of Kinegils, who, with his son Quilchelm, then swayed the sceptre of the West Saxon Kingdom; and in a short period, his mission was rewarded by the conversion of both those Monarchs, as well as of a considerable number of their subjects.

The sudden influence which Birinus obtained over the minds of the Saxons, is, agreeably to the monkish legends of that age, attributed to the fame of a miracle, which attended his embarkation for this Island. "Having performed the sacred mysteries, he left behind

time when it was one of the most important cities in the Island. The same season of peace allowed Arthur the necessary leisure for making a pilgrimage of devotion to the Holy Land. This journey afforded sufficient materials for the bards, whom Geoffry copies, to work up into the most extensive conquests; they accordingly represent their hero as subduing all the countries through which he passed During his absence, he committed the regency of his Kingdom to his nephew Mordred, who considering the Crown as his due, in right of his mother, took measures to secure it to himself, as well as the affections of his aunt, Queen Guenhumara, the most important of which was to strengthen himself, by making a fresh treaty with our King Cerdic. These particulars coming to the knowledge of Arthur, he hastens home, and endeavours, in the first place, 'to gain possession of his capital, and of his Queen, who, dreading the effects of his displeasure, takes refuge, and puts on the religious veil, in the famous Abbey of St. Julius, at Caerleon.'* He therefore hastens to the aforesaid Caer Gwent, which is ignorantly supposed to be our city; a battle ensues before it, which is therefore stated to have happened on Magdalen Hill: in a word, Arthur is victorious; but is soon after grievously wounded in a second battle, in which Mordred himself loses his life. Finding his end approaching,

* Mat. West. ad. an. 541. That there was a Nunnery dedicated to St. Julius, the British Martyr, in the said city, is attested by Benedict, Ang. Sac. Vol. II. p. 669; also by Giraldus, quoted by Camden, Monmouthshire. Now it was an easy matter for the Queen to fly from the *Gwent*, or Vintonia of Monmouthshire, to Caerleon, but a very difficult one to get thither from our city, especially in the situation of affairs in which this is said to have happened.

behind him what is called a *corporale*,* containing the blessed sacrament, which he did not recollect until the vessel in which he sailed, was some way out at sea. It was in vain for him to argue the case with the Pagan sailors who steered the ship, and it was impossible for him to leave his treasure behind. In this extremity, supported by a strong faith, he stept out of the ship upon the waters, which became firm under his feet; in short, he walked in this manner to land, and having secured what he was anxious about, returned, in the same manner, on board the vessel, which in the mean time had remained stationary in the place where he left it. The ship's crew were of the nation to which he was sent, who, being struck with the miracle which they had witnessed, lent a docile ear to his instructions: thus our apostle began the conversion of the West Saxons before he landed upon their territory."†

From.

proaching, Arthur gives up his kingdom to his relation, Constantine, and retires, with the utmost secrecy, to prepare himself for death, among the solitaries of Glassenbury, where he dies in so much obscurity, that his credulous countrymen will hardly admit the fact itself, of his being dead, until his tomb is discovered in the reign of Henry the Second.‡ In thus endeavouring to disengage the antiquities of our city from the fables with which they have been hitherto disfigured, we have at the same time disentangled one of the most perplexed periods of our national history, and reconciled, in a certain degree, the British with the Saxon historians. The existence and the feats of Arthur, to the extent, and in the places, which have been here assigned to them, are reconciled with probability; but it is proved that these have no immediate relation with our city."

History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 73, 80.

* A communion cloth, or square piece of linen, on which the chalice and host are placed by the priest who officiates at mass. *Bailey.*

† This legend is recorded by several ancient writers: Mr. Milner regards it as a prodigy so well attested, "that the most judicious historians have not dared openly to deny it."

‡ Girald. Cambren. Higden. Camden The writers of the "History of Winchester," more romantic than Geoffry himself, but less excusable, because they propagate the most revolting falsehoods without the *shadow* of authority, make Cerdic first gain possession of this city; they then cause him to be driven out of it by Pendragon; and lastly, they tell us he killed Arthur in battle, and thus became master of it a second time. *Milner.*

From Winchester, Birinus, by the consent of Kinegils, removed to Dorchester, near Oxford, then a considerable city, and apparently the place where Quilchelm kept his court. Here, for the present, he established the Episcopal See, while Kinegils himself began to collect materials for building a new Cathedral in his own city, but died before he had completed it, in 643. This Cathedral is stated to have been commenced on the site of the former one, and was intended to have been the principal foundation of the kind in the west;* but the death of Kinegils interrupted the design; for his son and successor, Kenewalch, being a Pagan, a stop was put to the building, and it was not renewed till after the lapse of several years, and the conversion of Kenewalch to Christianity. This change was effected at the Court of Anna, the Christian King of the East Angles, to which Kenewalch had fled for an asylum, when dispossessed of his throne by Penda, King of Mercia. Being afterwards restored through the interposition of his friends, he completed the building of the Cathedral, and endowed a Monastery near it. The Church was then dedicated by St. Birinus, in the name of the Holy Trinity, St. Peter, and St. Paul, anno 648. About twelve years afterwards, and ten after the decease of Birinus, Kenewalch divided the Diocese into two portions, assigning to that of Dorchester, the jurisdiction of his possessions in the north part of his kingdom, and establishing Winchester as the See of the south. Before the death of Kenewalch, which occurred in 674, the city, and surrounding country, was almost depopulated by a plague. St. Hedda, the fifth Bishop of the West Saxons, removed the remains of St. Birinus, which had been buried at Dorchester, to Winchester, and interred them in the Cathedral. The learned Bishops, Daniel, and St. Aldhelm, succeeded St. Hedda; but no event of distinguished importance is recorded of the city till the reign of Egbert. This

* "In votis ejus (Kinegilsi) erat in Wintonia ædificare templum præcipuum, collectis jam plurimis ad opus ædificii." *Ann. Wint.* "Eodem tempore (an. 644.) Kenewalchus sedem episcopalem in Wintonia fundavit." *Mat. West.* This agrees with the Saxon Chronicle, which ascribes the foundation of the Church and See of Winchester to Kenewalch

This Sovereign, who had been banished in the early part of his life by King Briteric, had so successfully studied the example of the great Charlemagne, at the Imperial Court of Aix la Chapelle, as to become his rival on this side of the water, when called to the Crown, on the death of Briteric, in 800. After many severe battles, he obtained the ascendency over all the other Saxon states, and uniting the whole into one Monarchy, was solemnly crowned King of all England, in Winchester Cathedral, in the year 827. On this occasion, he published an edict, dated from this city, abolishing all distinctions of Saxons, Jutes, and English; and commanding that all his subjects should in future be called by the latter name only.

The union of the Saxon kingdoms under Egbert, advanced Winchester to the dignity of Metropolis of the whole Island: and here the weak Ethelwolph, Egbert's successor, dated his charter for the general establishment of tythes, about the year 854 or 855. "The said instrument testifies, that it was subscribed by Ethelwolph himself, and by his two vassals, Bhurred, King of Mercia, and Edmund, King of the East Angles, as also by a great number of Nobles, Prelates, &c. in the Cathedral Church at Winchester, before the high altar; and that being thus signed, by way of greater solemnity, it was placed by the King upon the said altar."* About this period, the commerce of the city is recorded to have greatly increased, and the principal inhabitants appear, from Trussel's Manuscripts,† to have formed a *Guild* under the royal protection. This association is said to be the first of the kind, recorded in history, by the space of a whole century. The celebrated St. Swithin, or Swithun, a native of Winchester, or its suburbs, held the See during the greater part of this and the following reigns; and by his advice, Ethelbald, Ethelwolph's successor, raised

* Milner. "In civitate Wentana in ecclesia S. Petri ante altare capitale. Et tunc pro ampliore firmitate Rex Ethelwulphus posuit cartulam super altare." *Will. Malm. &c.*

† Written in the reign of James the First, and preserved among the archives of Winchester.

raised fortifications in the vicinity of the Cathedral and Cloisters, to preserve them from the destructive fury of the Danes, who now began to make incursions into different parts of the kingdom, with large armies. The good effects of this measure were soon experienced; for, in the next reign, that of Ethelbert, the Danes landed a considerable force at Southampton, and advancing to Winchester, made themselves masters of the city, wherein they committed the most horrid and lamentable excesses; but the Cathedral, with its adjoining offices, appears to have escaped their rage; a circumstance only to be accounted for, by supposing it effectually screened from their depredations. The Danes were, at length, routed with great slaughter, on their retreat to their ships; and the immense spoils which they had taken in the city, were recovered. The era of complete disaster was, however, not far distant; and, after various desperate battles fought by the brothers Ethelbert and Alfred, afterwards surnamed the Great, Winchester was abandoned to Danish vengeance; and among the other devastations, all the ecclesiastics belonging to the Cathedral were massacred, and the building itself greatly damaged. This event appears to have happened either in the year 871, or 873. The subsequent success of Alfred restored Winchester to some portion of its former splendor, and it again became the seat of government; and the *Codex Wintoniensis*, or General Survey of the Kingdom, which had been made by Alfred's order, was deposited, with other public records, in this city. Alfred himself began a monastery here for his friend and chaplain, St. Grimbald, on the north side of the Ealdan Mynstre, or Cathedral; intending it also, as a burial-place for his own family; but dying before its completion, he was provisionally interred in the Cathedral, from which his remains were afterwards removed to the Newan Mynstre, as the new foundation was then termed.

In the reign of Athelstan, Alfred's grandson, a remarkable comb[illegible]aid, by local tradition, and various historians, to have [illegible] place near this city, between "the Danish giant, Colbrand, and G[illegible] Earl of Warwick." Many exaggerated circumstances are co[illegible] with this battle; but "the ground-work of the history,"

it is observed by Mr. Milner, "is founded on so many ancient records, and supported by innumerable traditions, as likewise by a great number of monuments still existing, or that existed until of late,* that to reject it favors of absolute scepticism. It seems necessary, however, to add, that our native historian, being supported by constant tradition, and certain monuments, deserves much more credit, in placing the scene of this action in Hyde Meadow, called, from this circumstance, *Dane-mark*, and in arming his Danish champion with a huge battle axe, than does the Canon of Leicester,† who transfers the combat to the valley (*Chilcomb*) on the other Side of St. Giles's Hill; and who makes Colbrand fight chiefly with a mallet, or huge club, armed with iron." The prosperity of the city in the reign of Athelstan, may be estimated from the circumstance of that Sovereign establishing six mints here, for so many different kinds of money. "These mints were placed in the centre of the city, where the pent-house at present stands, but which then seems to have formed the site of the royal palace."

The succession of Edgar, surnamed the *Peaceable*, one of the best and greatest of the Saxon Kings, increased the importance of Winchester. Among the judicious laws which he established, was that

* "Such as,—First, *Athelstan's Chair*, being a turret, so called, in the north wall of the city, from which he is said to have been a spectator of the combat. Secondly, a *Representation* of the said battle, in stone, which Wharton tells us formerly existed in the said wall. Thirdly, two mutilated *Statues*; one of a very tall man, the other of a little man, in the attitude of fighting, said by Butler, in the Lives of the Saints, to have existed in the Chapel, at Guy's Cliff. Fourthly, COLBRAND'S AXE, as it is called by Rudborne, which was preserved, in his time, in the treasury of the Cathedral. Hist. Maj. There also it was in the reign of James the First, as Trussel testifies; and probably continued until the universal pillage in the grand Rebellion."

History of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 115.

† Knyghton. A particular account of the combat, abridged from this historian, is inserted in the History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 146. Note.

that celebrated one to prevent frauds arising from the diversity of measures, providing a standard legal measure for the whole of his dominions.* This was the origin of the celebrated *Winchester Measure;* the standard vessels made by Edgar's orders, being deposited in this city.† In the reign of this Sovereign, anno 963, St. Ethelwold, a native of Winchester, was appointed to the Episcopal See, and during his prelacy, he caused the Cathedral to be partly rebuilt; and on its completion, in 980, he re-consecrated it with great solemnity, in the presence of King Ethelred, Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, and eight other Bishops; besides a numerous assemblage of nobles, and other laity. On this occasion, to its former patrons, St. Peter, and St. Paul, was added the name of St. Swithin, whose relics were removed from the Church-yard, where they had been previously buried, according to St. Swithin's own desire, and re-interred under a magnificent shrine, that had been provided for the purpose by King Edgar. In the prelacy of this Bishop, and under the direction of Dunstan, the married secular canons, who then officiated in the Cathedral, were expelled, and their places supplied by Benedictine monks, brought from the Abbey at Abingdon. Similar measures were pursued in other parts of the kingdom; but, on the accession of Edward, surnamed the Martyr, Elfrida, his step-mother, attempted to change the direction of the current, and, by her influence in the province of Mercia, occasioned three abbeys, which St. Ethelwold had founded, to be suppressed, and their possessions given to married clergymen. This brought on the famous Synod, which was held in the Refectory of the Cathedral Monastery in this city, in which it was debated, whether the monasteries in general should be dissolved; the question is said to have been decided by a super-natural voice declaring in favor of the monks!

Ethelred, who was surnamed the *Unready*, from his tardiness in taking measures to repress the incursions of the Danes, appears to have

* The original bushel of Edgar is still preserved in the Guildhall of Winchester.

† "Mensura sit sicut apud Wincestriam habetur."

Leges Edgari, ap. Bromp. n. xiii.

have determined on the general massacre of the Danes in this city, shortly after his nuptials with Emma, the *Pearl of Normandy*, in 1002. "Here the massacre begun; and here, as soon as it was completed, those unmanly and indecent revels, called the *Hocktide Sports*, were instituted in memory of the part which the English women had borne in it, by Ethelred,* and continued, with a short interruption, until of late years. The dreadful vengeance taken by the Danish King, Swayne, (or Svein,) who landed soon afterwards, sickens us by its very recital.† With respect to our city, which appears not to have been summoned by Swayne before the year 1013, it instantly opened its gates to the conqueror, submitting to whatever terms he chose to impose upon it."‡ In the devastations that ensued, the good St. Elphage, who was then Bishop, and is recorded to have

* "The secret letters of Ethelred, directed to all parts of his kingdom from this city, ordered, as Henry Huntingdon says, (reporting what he had heard from old people living at the time,) that all the Danes indiscriminately should be put to death; and this was executed, as we learn from the Chronicle of Wallingford, with circumstances of the greatest cruelty, even upon women and children, in many parts: but in other places, it seems that the English, instead of killing their guests, satisfied themselves with what was called *hocksining*, or *houghing* them, by cutting their ham-strings, so as to render them incapable of serving in war. Hence the sports which were afterwards instituted in our city, and from thence propagated throughout the whole kingdom, obtained the name of the *Hocktide merriments*." The massacre itself took place on St. Brice's Day, November 13; but the sports, by an ordinance of Ethelred, were transferred to the Monday in the third week after Easter.

† "Pars civitatis Cantuariæ incenditur, deinde tota capitur. Homines jugulantur, alii flammis devorantur, alii de muris præcipites dantur, plures per verenda suspensi deficiunt. Parvuli a maternis uberibus avulsi, aut lanceis, in altum projecti, excipiuntur, aut minutim in frusta conciduntur. Matronæ per plateas cruribus distractæ, demum ignibus injectæ moriuntur."

Mat. West. an. 1011. *Osbern. in Vit. S. Elph*

‡ "Wintonienses perterriti pacem cum eo fecerunt, et obsides, quos vel quot expetiit dederunt." *Sim. Dunelm. an.* 1013.

have introduced the use of Organs into his Cathedral,* was seen to rush between the murderers and their helpless victims, crying out to the former, "If ye are men, spare at least the innocent, and the unresisting; or if you want a victim, turn your swords upon me: it is I who have so often reproached you with your crimes, that have supported and redeemed the prisoners you have made, and have deprived you of many of your soldiers, by converting them to Christianity." Whether the solicitations of the Prelate were effectual, does not appear; but he was himself seized, and imprisoned; and, after seven months confinement, cruelly murdered at Greenwich, on declaring himself incompetent to raise the money (3000 marks of gold) which they had demanded for his ransom.

On the division of the kingdom between Edmund Ironside and Canute, West-Sex was retained by the former; but after his death, in the following year, Canute attained the entire Sovereignty. Soon afterwards, he divided his dominions into four parts, the jurisdiction of three of which he vested in subordinate rulers, but retained the fourth, and most honorable portion, in his own hands. Making Winchester his capital, he greatly increased the riches of the Cathedral; but the most extraordinary of all his presents, "was that of his royal Crown, which he placed over the crucifix of the high altar, having vowed never more to wear the same, at the time that he proved to his flatterers the emptiness of their praises, in hailing him Lord of the Ocean, by commanding, in vain, the flowing tide not to approach his feet."† In this city also, Canute held a general meeting of his nobility, at which many equitable and wise laws were passed, for ensuring public tranquillity and happiness. Other ordinances, of a more unpopular and severe nature, were likewise enacted, for preserving the royal forests, and beasts of chace.

On the death of Hardicanute, (son of Canute, and Emma, Ethelred's widow,) Edward, his half Brother, surnamed the *Confessor*, from his presumed sanctity, was called to the throne by the general voice;

* M. S. ap. Godwin; quoted in Milner's History.

† Milner's History, Vol. I. p. 177. This celebrated occurrence is supposed to have taken place on the beach at Southampton.

voice; and his coronation was conducted with great rejoicings in this city. On this occasion, Edward granted a charter to the Cathedral, ordering the donation of half a mark to the Master of the choir; and a cask of wine, and 100 cakes of white bread, to the Convent, as often as a King of England should wear his Crown in the city of Winchester.

During the reign of this Monarch, a remarkable trial of the fiery ordeal is registered to have been made on the person of Queen Emma, who had been accused, among other calumnies, of a criminal intercourse with Bishop Alwyn, her kinsman. This Prelate had accompanied her to England, on her marriage with Ethelred, in quality of counsellor, or guardian; and being then a layman, was constituted Earl of Southampton, and invested with a command against the Danes. The peace between Edmund Ironside and Canute, left him at liberty to pursue his inclination for devotion and retirement, and he became a monk at Winchester, to the See of which he was afterwards raised, by desire of the Queen. The stories propagated of her intercourse with Alwyn, coming, at length, to her knowledge, she is said to have insisted on undergoing the proof of the fiery ordeal; and the Cathedral of Winchester was appointed as the place of trial. Here, in presence of the King, and a crowded assembly of all ranks of people, she is stated to have walked unhurt, over nine red-hot plough-shares; and, in memory of her extraordinary deliverance, increased the possessions of the Church, by the gift of nine manors. A similar number is also recorded to have been given by the Bishop, and three others (those of Portland, Weymouth, and Wyke) by Edward himself, whose indignation against his mother, for marrying Canute, is said to have been removed by this event.*

 Another

* The particulars of this singular story, as detailed in the pages of Rudborne, and the Winchester Annalist, are thus given by Milner. "Emma having succeeded in her request to clear herself, and Bishop Alwyn, by the fiery ordeal, came from the Abbey of Wherwell to the Cathedral Church, and there spent the night, preceding her trial, in fervent prayer. The morning being come, the King, the Bishops, and an

Another remarkable circumstance, verging on the miraculous, is recorded to have happened in this city, in the year 1053: this was the sudden death of Earl Godwin, the most powerful nobleman in the realm, who was supposed to have been instrumental in shortening the life of Alfred, the King's brother. An accidental occurrence, in the midst of a great entertainment, during the festival of Easter, which Edward was here celebrating, is stated to have led the Earl to wish, that the next morsel which he put into his mouth might choak him, if he was guilty of the alleged murder. The wish is said to have been accomplished; and Godwin, after a few minutes agony, being unable to force the viands either upwards or downwards, to have fallen dead under the table. Rapin considers this tale as an invention of the Norman monks, to blacken the Earl's character; and observes, from other historians, that the death of the Earl did not occur till the fifth day of his illness. The Broad Seal, now considered as the insignia of the Chancellor,

an immense multitude of persons, of all descriptions, assembled in the Cathedral, to be spectators of the event. The pavement of the nave being swept, nine plough-shares, red with heat, were placed in a line upon it, while Emma, having invoked the Almighty to deal with her accordingly as she is innocent or guilty of the crimes laid to her charge, prepares herself for the trial, by laying aside her robes, and baring her feet. She is then conducted by two Bishops, one having hold of each of her hands, to the glowing metal. In the mean time, the vaults of the Church thunder with the voices of the assembled multitude, who, in loud shouts, call upon the Almighty to save the royal sufferer. and their cries are echoed through the whole city, by the crowds who were unable to gain admittance into the Church. She herself raising up her eyes to Heaven, and walking slowly on, thus makes her prayer: 'O God, who didst save Susannah from the malice of the wicked elders, and the three children from the furnace of fire, save me, for the sake of thy holy servant Swithin, from the fire prepared for me.' In a word, she is seen to tread upon each of the burning irons, and is not even sensible that she had touched them; but addressing herself to the Bishops, who had now led her almost to the end of the Church, she exclaims, 'When shall I come to the plough-shares?' They turn round, and

Chancellor, appears, from Trussel's Manuscripts, to have been first made and kept in this city, in the reign of Edward.

Soon after the Norman Invasion, the Conqueror founded a Castle at Winchester, with the same intent as he had began many others in different parts of the kingdom; namely, to prevent a rising of the inhabitants; and here, on St. Giles's Hill, at a subsequent period, the great Earl Waltheof was beheaded, after a mock trial, for an act of imprudence which he had afterwards repented of, and disclosed. During this reign, Winchester still continued to be a principal Royal Residence: though London, which had now arisen to great importance, began gradually to assume the pre-eminence. The chief festival of the year, that of Easter, William made an invariable rule to observe in this city, with the utmost pomp; a circumstance in which his example was followed by his successor Rufus.

In the year 1079, the re-building of the Cathedral, and adjoining Monastery, was again commenced by Bishop Walkelin, a cousin

and shew her that she has already passed them: the lamentations of the multitude then ceasing, the air resounds with acclamations of joy and thanksgiving, still louder than their former prayers had been. The King alone is found overwhelmed with grief, and bathed in tears, lying upon the ground in the choir; to whom Emma being conducted, he begs her forgiveness, in terms of the utmost humility and sorrow, for the injurious suspicions that he had entertained concerning her, and the rigour with which he had treated her. Not content with this, he requires of her, and the Bishops there present, to strike him with a wand, which he presents to them. She accordingly gave her son three blows; when, having embraced him, both she and Bishop Alwyn were put into full possession of their former rights and property, and ever after enjoyed the royal favour and respect in the degree they merited." The more ancient writers, as Ailred Rievallensis, Hen. Hunt. Will. Malm. Rog. Hov. and Sim. Dunelm. do not mention this event; but the Poly-Chronicon of Ranulph Higden, who wrote in the middle of the fourteenth century, relates it at length; and about the same time, anno 1338, on the translation of Orleton to this See, it was sung in the Priors' Hall here, with other popular songs, relating to the history of Winchester.

to the Conqueror, of whom he obtained a grant for carrying on the work, of as much timber as he could fell and carry away in three days, from the wood called Hanepinges, (now Hempage,) about three miles eastward from the city. Making a diligent use of this permission, he caused every individual tree to be cut down in the absence of the King, and carted to Winchester within the prescribed time. William was at first greatly incensed against the Bishop; but, on the latter falling at his feet, and requesting to be restored to favor, dismissed him with the observation, that 'he had made too exacting a use, of too liberal a grant.' Walkelin completed his building about the year 1093; and the new Cathedral was then dedicated, in the presence of almost all the Bishops and Abbots of England. On the decease of Walkelin, in 1098, Rufus seized on the bishopric, and retained it till his accidental death in the New Forest, in the year 1100. The next day his body was brought to Winchester, on no better vehicle than the cart of a charcoal-maker,* and was afterwards interred in the centre of the Cathedral choir.

Henry, the younger brother of Rufus, having the advantage of his elder brother, Robert,† in being upon the spot, seized the Royal Treasury at Winchester, and partly by its influence, was elected to the vacant throne. The same year he espoused Matilda, the lineal descendant of the West Saxon Kings, in this city, where she had previously worn the veil, but not taken the vows, in the Abbey of St. Mary. This Princess, who is highly celebrated in the annals of Winchester, under the title of *Molde*, the Good Queen, was delivered of a son here, within little more than a twelvemonth after her marriage; and on this joyful occasion, Henry granted a charter of additional privileges to the inhabitants. The same year, anno 1102, the Royal Palace, the Mint, the Guildhall, and

* "The lineal descendants of the said charcoal-maker, by name Purkis, still live within the distance of a bow-shot from the spot where Rufus fell, and still continue to follow the trade of their ancestor."
Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 198.

† Robert was then absent, upon the first croisade in the Holy Land.

and a number of houses, were consumed by a fire, which also destroyed many of the public records.

In this reign, a singular transaction is stated in the Saxon Chronicle, and by William of Malmsbury, to have taken place at Winchester. The current coin throughout the kingdom, having been greatly debased by the different mint-masters, Henry, by the advice of the celebrated Roger, Bishop of Sarum, gave orders for them to repair to this city by Christmas-day, anno 1125; here, being separately examined, they were all convicted of the frauds imputed to them, excepting three persons of the profession, dwelling at Winchester, and punished by mutilation, and the loss of their right hands. All the base money was at the same time cried down, and an entire new coinage ordered to be made by the three artists who had preserved their honesty. Henry, also, about the same period, caused a standard yard to be made from the length of his own arm, in order to prevent the frauds committed in the measurement of cloth: this is thought to have been deposited with the other standards in this city.*

* "It was during this reign, as Trussel rightly observes, that Winchester attained to the zenith of its prosperity. It was the chief seat of government, where the King wore his crown, and assembled his nobility; and where the treasury, the Royal mint, and the public records were kept. Here also was a Royal Palace, of the greatest extent and magnificence; as likewise a noble Castle at the west end; and another was added about this time, no less considerable, at its eastern extremity, for the episcopal residence; not to speak of the Guildhall, or of other magnificent buildings, whether for public uses, or for the habitation of divers illustrious personages, who were accustomed to reside here. It was enriched with three Royal Monasteries, besides other religious houses of less note; and an almost incredible number of parish Churches and Chapels, amongst which sacred edifices, towered supreme, the vast Cathedral, venerable, even in those days, for its high antiquity, and for its possessing the remains of more personages of the ancient Royal line, than all the other Churches of the Island put together. A more important advantage than that was, its populousness and extent; its suburbs then reaching a mile, in every direction, further than they do at present:

After the death of Henry, and the usurpation of the Crown by his nephew, Stephen, Winchester suffered greatly in the distractions of the time. Stephen having seized the castles of the Bishops throughout the kingdom, and also committed other violences against the clergy, a Synod was held in this city, to protest against the injustice that had been used, and, if possible, to obtain redress. The Usurper was then at his palace here, but, instead of listening to the deputation sent by the prelates, he instantly departed for London, leaving the assembled Bishops, as well as the citizens in general, highly dissatisfied at his conduct. In this state of affairs, the Empress Maud landed on the coast of Sussex, to dispute the succession to the throne, and the Castle of Winchester was secured in her interest; but the city preserved its allegiance to the King, through the influence of the then Bishop, Henry de Blois, the Usurper's brother. In the course of the civil war that ensued, Stephen was made a prisoner, and great part of the kingdom having declared in favor of his opponent, the Bishop thought it prudent to bend to the prevailing current, and admitted the Empress, and her partizans, into this city, having previously met them on Magdalen Hill, in solemn procession, accompanied by all the religious, and most of the other inhabitants.

The haughtiness of Matilda having occasioned much disaffection, and the public opinion beginning to veer in favor of Stephen, the Bishop neglected to treat the Empress with his accustomed deference, and the latter becoming suspicious, summoned him to attend her at the Castle, where she had fixed her residence. On this occasion he returned the ambiguous answer, "*I will prepare myself,*"

present; on the north, to Worthy, on the west, to Weeke, on the south, to St. Cross; and on the east, to St. Magdalen's Hill. It was the general thoroughfare from the eastern to the western parts of the kingdom, and was resorted to from every part of it, on account of its celebrated fairs. Finally, it enjoyed a considerable woollen manufactory, particularly in the article of men's caps, which were worn until hats came into fashion; and an extensive commerce with the continent, from which it imported great quantities of wine, in return for its woollens, and other commodities." *Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p.* 208.

myself;" which he accordingly did, by strengthening his Castle of Wolvesey, and putting it in the best possible state to withstand a siege. Soon afterwards it was invested by the troops of the Empress, under the command of her natural brother, Robert, Earl of Glocester, and her uncle, David, King of Scotland. This event was the signal of insurrection to Stephen's friends, who hastening to Winchester, relieved the Prelate, and attacked those who had besieged him. "The armies were great and warlike on both sides; and they carried on their military operations during the space of seven weeks in the heart of the city, a calamity almost unparalleled in the history of other cities. The party of the Empress had possession of whatever was to the north side of the High Street, where the houses of the citizens stood in general, together with the royal Castle. The King's party held the Bishop's palace, the Cathedral, and whatever else was to the south of the High Street: by degrees, also, they forced their enemies from all the other quarters of the city, and confined them to the Castle; but, in effecting this, they made use of a most barbarous stratagem: they threw fire-balls from Wolvesey, upon the houses that were possessed by the opposite party; a destructive measure, in which the brave Earl of Glocester disdained to imitate them. Thus they destroyed, first the adjoining Abbey of St. Mary, then the whole north, which was infinitely the most populous part of the city, together with twenty churches,* the Royal Palace, and the suburb of Hyde, with the magnificent Monastery of St. Grimbald, erected there in the preceding reign. At length the Imperial party were confined to the Castle, in which they might long have bid defiance to their enemies, had they not been straitened for want of provisions, and still more for want of water; the stream from the river, which flowed round it, having been obstructed by the besiegers. The chief object of anxiety to the brave brother and uncle, was to save the person of the Empress; and here the fertility of her genius came in aid of their valor. She caused a report to be spread of her illness; and then, after a suitable inter-

* Stow quotes an authority, according to which, forty churches were then burnt.

val, of her death; taking care, at the same time, to keep out of the sight of every one, except a few trusty friends. In short, she was inclosed like a corpse in a sheet of lead, and was thus suffered to pass in a horse litter, as if carried out for interment, through the army of the besiegers; a truce having been granted for the purpose. When at a proper distance, she was freed from her dismal inclosure; and mounting a horse, she made the best of her way by Luggershall, and Devizes, to Gloocester. In the mean time, Earl Robert, with his followers, and the King of Scots, taking advantage of the truce, suddenly issued from the Castle; but being pursued by Stephen's army, the Earl was taken prisoner, at Stockbridge;"* and afterwards exchanged for the captive King, as he was of no less value to the Imperial, than Stephen was to the Regal party. One of the first concerns of the latter, after obtaining his release, was to strengthen the Castle with new works; but while busied in this undertaking, a large army collected against him from the surrounding country, and he was obliged to abandon his design, and save himself by flight. During the further prosecution of the war, the Bishop, who had been invested with legatine authority by the Pope, held a Synod here, in which it was resolved that "Ploughs should have the same privileges of sanctuary with churches; and a sentence of excommunication was pronounced by the whole assembly, with the ceremony of lighted torches in their hands, against all those who should attack or injure any person engaged in the employments of agriculture."† The terms of pacification entered into at Wallingford Castle, between Stephen and Henry, Maud's son, were ratified at Winchester, with the general consent of the Kingdom.

Many

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 215.

† Milner, from Mat. Paris, ad. an. 1142. "Statutum est (in Concil. Wint.) ut aratra in campis, cum ipsis agricolis, talem pacem haberent, qualem haberent in cimiterio, si existerent. Excommunicaverunt autem omnes qui contra hoc decretum venirent, candelis accensis; et sic milvorum rapacitas aliquantulum conquievit."

Many privileges were bestowed on the inhabitants of this city, by Henry the Second; and, in particular, that of being governed by a Mayor, with a subordinate Bailiff, anno 1184. In his reign the again increasing importance of Winchester received a considerable check by an accidental fire, which commencing at the Mint, where a new coinage was fabricating, burnt down the greater part of the city. On the death of this King, Richard, his son, surnamed Cœur de Lion, possessed himself of the royal treasury, which Mathew of Westminster asserts to have contained valuables, in gold, silver, and precious stones, to the amount of 900,000l. a most immense sum, if the difference in the value of money is taken into consideration. Richard was crowned at London; but, after his return from captivity in the dungeons of Trivallis, he was again crowned in this city, with great solemnity and splendor.

In the year 1207, King John held an assembly, in this city, in which a tax was imposed upon the people, of a thirteenth of all moveable property; a measure that caused great and general disaffection. Here also, the same year, his Queen was delivered of a son, surnamed of Winchester, from his birth-place. In the ensuing year, the King granted to the citizens a charter of incorporation, on payment of 200 marks down, and 100 marks annually: he also confirmed their former immunities, and bestowed some additional privileges. In this city also, in the monks' Chapter-House, was the above pusillanimous Monarch absolved from the sentence of excommunication, which had been pronounced against him by the Pope, Innocent the Third, to whose Legate he had made the most abject and disgraceful submissions.

Henry of Winchester, who succeeded his father in the year 1215, held his court at Winchester during great part of his minority, under the guardianship, first, of William, Earl of Pembroke, and, after his decease, of Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of this See. This, in some measure, restored the consequence of the city, which had greatly suffered in the foregoing contentions: but the advantages arising from the King's residence here, were in a great degree counteracted by associations formed for purposes of rapine and plunder, in which not only many of the principal inhabitants

were concerned, but likewise several belonging to the King's own household, and body-guard. These illegal combinations were at length broken by the address and spirit of the Sovereign; and no fewer than thirty persons were condemned, and executed, on the occasion. During the disastrous contests between Henry and his Barons, Winchester suffered greatly; both parties alternately obtaining possession, and committing various acts of violence. After the decisive battle of Evesham, several parliaments were held here by the King; and here also, in the same reign, occurred the famous trial of John Plantagenet, Earl of Surrey, for cleaving the skull of Alan de la Zouch, Chief Justice of Ireland, as he sat upon the bench at Westminster Hall. This high-spirited Nobleman had been summoned to produce evidence of the tenure by which he held his lands, when, drawing his sword, he swore that his father and grand-father had held their estates by that right, and that he would maintain them by the same. This asseveration he fatally verified on the person of the Judge; but was acquitted of the murder on his trial, upon his solemn oath, "that he had not struck the deceased out of preconceived malice, or contempt of the King's authority; and upon twenty-four persons, of the rank of Knights, who were *compurgatores*, swearing they believed what the Earl had sworn to be true: he was, however, fined in the heavy sum of 1200 marks." During this reign, as well as the preceding ones from the time of Henry the First, many disputes arose about the privilege of electing to the See, between the Sovereign, the Pope, and the Monks belonging to the Cathedral.

The increased importance of London about this period, operated greatly to the disadvantage of Winchester; and though Edward the First held several parliaments here, in one of which the celebrated ordinances were passed, afterwards known by the name of the *Statutes of Winchester*, yet the Royal Residence was in a great measure removed; and with it, of course, departed the attendants on the court, and others engaged in public affairs, whose expenditure had hitherto contributed to the affluence of the city. Towards the conclusion of this reign, all the liberties of Winchester were declared void, by order of the King, whose displeasure had

been

been excited from the escape of Bernard Pereres, a foreign hostage, that had been confined in the Castle under charge of the Mayor, and other corporate officers. The good offices of Margaret, the reigning Queen, procured a restoration of the privileges of the city; and the memory of this benevolent Princess has been ever since held in great and deserved estimation by the inhabitants.

Shortly after the murder of Edward the Second, a parliament was caused to be held in this city, by the Queen and her paramour, Roger Mortimer, in which the illustrious Edmund of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, was attainted of high treason. Being condemned to die, on the day appointed for his execution, he was led to a scaffold erected before the Castle gate; but such was the general detestation against the bloody deed, that no person could be prevailed on to become his executioner till the evening, when the disgraceful office was undertaken by a wretch from one of the prisons, who, to save his own life, consented to decapitate the Earl.

In the reign of Edward the Third, Winchester was appointed as one of the fixed markets, or staples, for wool: and the merchants availing themselves of the solemn promise given by the King and his Council, not to revoke this order, erected large warehouses, and other buildings, for the more convenient management of the trade. The growing commerce of the city, was, however, interrupted by the destruction of Portsmouth and Southampton by the French, in the years 1337 and 1338; and again by the great Plague, which, about ten years afterwards, spent its first fury in this neighbourhood: but the most destructive event to the prosperity of Winchester, was the removal of the wool staple to Calais in the year 1363. "Henceforward," observes Mr. Milner, "her decline from wealth and commerce was sensible and uniform." In this reign the rebuilding of the nave of the Cathedral was commenced by Bishop Edyngton, who was Treasurer and Chancellor to the King. The honor of completing it, with other material alterations, was reserved however for his able successor, William de Wykeham.

Richard the Second, and his Queen, visited this city in the year 1388; and here, in 1392, a parliament was held, in consequence of London having suffered a temporary deprivation of its privileges through the Royal indignation. Henry the Fourth had the solemnities

solemnities of his marriage with Joanna, Dowager Duchess of Bretagne, celebrated in Winchester Cathedral, by the venerable Bishop Wykeham, in 1401. The celebrated Henry Beaufort, son of John of Gaunt, and afterwards Cardinal, was appointed to the See of Winchester on the death of Wykeham, by the above Monarch. Henry the Sixth was a considerable benefactor to this city, which he visited several times; and in 1449 he held a parliament here, which continued from the sixteenth of June, till the sixteenth of the month following. In this reign the trade and population had so greatly decreased, that the inhabitants, on a petition to the King for the renewal of a grant made by himself in 1440, represent that 997 houses were actually divested of inhabitants, and seventeen parish Churches shut up. On the death of Cardinal Beaufort, in 1447, the celebrated Waynflete was elected to succeed him by the Monks, on the recommendation of the King, who honored his installation by his own presence.

On the pregnancy of Elizabeth of York, Henry the Seventh's Queen, that Princess was brought to lye-in at Winchester from motives of state policy, in order to conciliate the Welsh nation, among whom a pretended prophecy had been industriously propagated, that the posterity of their favorite Cadwallader, should regain the sovereignty of Britain. Henry himself affected to trace his genealogy to that King; and the better to fall in with the prevailing prejudice, he caused his new-born son to be christened Arthur, from the circumstance of his having drawn his first breath in the Castle traditionally asserted to have been erected by the famous British hero of that name.

In the year 1522, Henry the Eighth, and his Royal guest, the Emperor Charles the Fifth, spent a week together in this city; on which occasion the celebrated *Round Table* was new painted, and a distich, in honor of the illustrious visitors, placed beneath it.* On the

* The characters in the names of the twenty-four Knights, and the costume in the dress of the King, were those of the reign of Henry the Eighth, and have since, at each fresh painting, been copied, though [illegible]ectly. The distich was as follows:

Carolus

the death of Bishop Fox, in this reign, the far-famed Wolsey was invested with the temporalities of this See, in October, 1528, but was not installed till the following year, and then only by proxy: in 1529 he was deprived of his dignity; and this See remained vacant nearly four years, when the King bestowed it on the celebrated Gardiner. The final dissolution of the Monasteries, during the prelacy of this Bishop, and the consequent destruction of religious houses, rendered Winchester scarcely any thing more than a mere skeleton of its former grandeur.

In the year 1554, Winchester became the scene of the meeting, and subsequent nuptials, of Queen Mary and Philip, of Spain, which were solemnized with great splendor. The restitution of many estates, which had been alienated from the Bishopric during the reigns of her brother and father, were restored to the See through the influence of the above Sovereign; but Winchester itself had lost its importance; and in a charter obtained through the solicitations of Sir Francis Walsingham, is described as having fallen "into great ruin, decay, and poverty." This charter was granted by Elizabeth, in the latter part of whose reign, several Catholics were executed here, on the score of religion; though only one Protestant had actually suffered in this city, during the persecution under her more bigotted sister.

The commencement of the year 1603 was distinguished at Winchester, by the singular occurrence of James of Scotland, being proclaimed King of England, by the sole authority of the High Sheriff of Hampshire. This was Sir Benjamin Tichborne, who, on receiving intelligence of the death of Elizabeth, hastened from his family seat, and issued the proclamation, without waiting for orders from the Privy Council in London, who had passed several hours in deliberating on this important subject. The spirited and more decided conduct of the Sheriff, was deservedly rewarded by the new Sovereign, who granted to him and his heirs in perpetuity, the Royal Castle of Winchester, together with an annual pension of

Carolus, Henricus vivant; defensor uterque;
Henricus fidei, Carolus ecclesiæ."

Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 622.

of 100l. during his own life, and that of his eldest son, whom he also knighted. Before the expiration of the above year, another transaction, of much celebrity, occurred in this city; namely, the trial of the great Sir Walter Raleigh,* Lord Cobham, Lord Grey de Wilton, and others, with whom these noblemen had been implicated through the subtlety of the King's Ministers, on pretended charges of conspiracy. During these proceedings, Winchester presented some faint images of its former splendor; but still continued to decline during the remainder of this reign, though James occasionally visited it in his progresses to the west.

In the eventful reign of Charles the First, the City and Castle of Winchester were secured for the Parliament, by Sir William Waller; but about the conclusion of the year 1643, the Castle was seized and garrisoned by the Royalists, under the command of Sir William, afterwards Lord Ogle. About this period, a design was entertained of re-establishing the King's authority in the adjoining counties of Hampshire and Sussex; and Winchester was appointed as the general rendezvous of the army that was then forming in the west: fortifications were at the same time thrown up round the city, and particularly on the eastern and western sides, where the entrenchments may yet be traced. The activity of Waller, and the defeat of Lord Hopton on Cheriton Down, disconcerted this project; and Waller obtained possession of the city without loss:† the Castle, however, held out for the King; and

* See Beauties, &c. Vol. IV. p. 309, et seq.

† The wanton violence of the soldiery, at their triumphant entrance into Winchester, observes Mr. Milner, "heightened by their religious prejudices, was chiefly displayed against our venerable Cathedral. Here, the monuments of the dead were defaced; the bones of Kings and Bishops thrown about the Church; the two famous statues of the Kings, Charles and James, erected at the entrance into the choir, pulled down; the communion plate, books, hangings, and cushions, seized upon, and made away with; the Church vestments put on by the Heathenish soldiers, riding in that posture in derision about the streets, some scornfully singing pieces of the Common Prayer, while others tooted

and on the Parliament's troops drawing off to besiege Oxford, in conjunction with the Earl of Essex, the city itself was again secured by the Royalists.

The fatal battle of Naseby, in 1645, rendering the King's affairs desperate, and admitting time for new operations against the few places that were still held in his name, an army was dispatched, under Cromwell, to reduce Winchester. The place was summoned on the twenty-eighth of September, and refusing to surrender, the siege was commenced. The chief efforts of Cromwell were directed against the Castle, which, after a week's defence, capitulated on very favorable terms; but not without some suspicion of weakness, or treachery,* on the part of the Governor. The works were immediately demolished, by blowing them up with gunpowder: the fortifications of the city were at the same time destroyed, together with the Bishop's Castle of Wolvesey, and several Churches and public buildings.

The next great calamity which Winchester underwent, was a dreadful visitation by the plague, which broke out in the Metropolis in May, 1665, and extended its ravages to this city, very early in the following year. "The dead were here, no less than in London, carried out by cart loads at a time, and buried on the eastern downs, as the turfy mounds there still indicate. Almost all trade and mutual intercourse were at an end, and it was not without great difficulty, that the necessaries of life were procured; and that the third great calamity, famine, was averted, by inducing the country people to bring their provisions to a weekly market, which was held, with all the jealous precautions possible, upon a rising ground, beyond the west gate, where the *Obelisk* is now erected. The custom was for the buyers and sellers to keep at a considerable distance from each other, whilst they made their bargains; which done, the commodities were left by the country people

tooted upon broken pieces of the organs. The stories of the Old and New Testament, curiously beautified with colours, and cut out in carved wood, were utterly destroyed; and of the brass torn from violated monuments, might have been built a house, as strong as the brazen towers in old romances." *Ryves's Mercurius Rusticus, &c.*

people upon a large flat stone, now forming the basis of the said Obelisk, and were fetched away by the inhabitants, who, in return, threw the money agreed upon into a vessel of water provided for the purpose.*

During the latter part of the reign of Charles the Second, Winchester appeared in a fair way of retrieving some considerable portion of its former splendor, that Monarch having chosen it as his accustomed place of residence, when public business did not require his presence in London. He also purchased the site and remains of the Castle, together with the ground belonging to it, on which he began to erect a spacious and magnificent Palace. His example was followed by many of the nobility and gentry, and a number of handsome mansions was erected at this period: many others were designed, as well as various improvements in the general appearance of the city; but the death of the King, in February, 1685, occasioned the entire miscarriage of the plan. Even the palace itself was left unfinished; and so completely has its original purpose been changed, that, after being frequently used as a prison of war, it is now converted into military barracks for the district.

The last occurrence of any distinguished historical importance that took place in this city, was the trial and execution of Mrs. Alicia Lisle, widow of the famous John Lisle, Esq. a representative for this city, and one of the Judges on the trial of Charles the First. This unfortunate woman, then upwards of seventy years of age, was accused of harboring known rebels, after the battle fought by the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth, at Sedgemore. The jury repeatedly declared themselves not satisfied with the evidence of her guilt, but were at length forced to condemn her by the interference of that abandoned miscreant, Judge Jeffreys, who presided on the bench. The only act of mercy that could be obtained for this victim to tyranny, was the alteration of her sentence from burning, into that of beheading. She was executed in September, 1685.*

The

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 428.



The CATHEDRAL of Winchester is one of the most interesting buildings in England, whether considered with respect to the "antiquity of its foundation, the importance of the scenes that have been transacted in it, or the characters of the personages with whose mortal remains it is enriched and hallowed." It is also curious as an instructive example of architecture, whether of the Saxon, Norman, or English style, but particularly of the latter, both in its early and improved state.

The structure erected by the Saxon Kings, Kinegils and Kenewalch, is entirely destroyed; but of that built by Ethelwold, the Crypt, beneath the high altar, is yet remaining: some other parts, as the low aisles at the east end, have been attributed to his age, but erroneously. The walls, the pillars, and the groining of this crypt, are still in nearly their original state, and are, as Mr. Milner observes, "executed in a fine and bold, though simple and unadorned, manner, that gives no contemptible idea of Saxon art."*

"The Saxon Church, built by Kenewalch," continues this gentleman, "did not extend so far towards the west, probably by 150 feet, as Walkelin afterwards built it. In consequence of this scale of the ancient Church, its high altar, tower, transept, and the habitations of the monks, were considerably more to the east, than they were afterwards placed. Walkelin began his work by taking down all that part of the Church that was to the west of the aforesaid tower, in the place of which he built up from the foundations,

* History of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 8. "The chief alterations of a later date, are the following: a new crypt, with pointed arches, has been made under the eastern extremity of the Lady Chapel; and several masses of masonry have been raised in both crypts; either to form sepulchres for bodies, the monuments of which are above, or to support the fabric over them, which in these parts is extremely defective; a great quantity of rubbish and earth has accumulated on the pavement, which hides the same, together with the bases of the pillars. The entrance into the crypts through what is called the Holy Hole, has been obstructed, and another made from the water-close, under the south-east aisle of the fabric." Ibid. Note. Another entrance has also been made under the north-east aisle from Paradise Garden.

foundations, the present large and massive tower, which hence bore his name; the lofty and capacious north and south transepts, and the body of the Church of the same height with them, and reaching to the full extent of the present fabric. He also built new cloisters, with all the other offices requisite for a Cathedral monastery, in the situation which they ever afterwards held, on the south-west side of the Church." Walkelin's buildings were completed in the year 1093, in the course of which, all the offices that had been left standing of the ancient Monastery, and whatever else remained of the old Church, except the high altar, and eastern aisles, were taken down; and in the next year, the old high altar appears to have been removed, as the relics of St. Swithin, and other saints, were then found under it.*

Abundant specimens of the work of Walkelin yet remain. "The most conspicuous of these," observes Mr. Milner, "is the square massive tower,† 140 feet high, and fifty feet broad, which is seen at the present day, in so perfect and firm a state to all appearance, as when it was built 700 years ago, and which was celebrated in ancient times for being the firmest in all England. It bears internal evidence of the age in which it was built, in the general simplicity and massiveness of its architecture, in its circular windows, adorned with the chevron, and billeted mouldings, and in the capitals and ornaments of its pillars. The inside of the tower, in both its stories above the present ceiling, and up to the very covering of it, is finished with the utmost care, and adorned with various ornaments, chiefly those above-mentioned. The

* History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 12.

† Mr. Gilpin allows that the history of Winchester is full of curiosity; and that its antiquities serve to illustrate its history: but amongst all its antiquities, he recollects no object of *beauty* except the old cross. Speaking of the Cathedral as the work of William of Wykeham (only) he expresses his surprise that so elegant an architect should have erected a structure so heavy and disproportioned as the tower; forgetting doubtless that the tower was erected by Walkelin 300 years before Wykeham exis[illegible] is certainly, though heavy in appearance, one of the most ma[illegible] specimens of Norman architecture in this kingdom.

The transepts are also the work of Walkelin; and though they have been the most neglected of any part of the fabric, yet are they in a far more firm and secure state, than any portion of the building that is of a later construction. It is necessary, however, carefully to distinguish the original work from the alterations that have since been introduced: of the former sort, are the walls up to the very summits of them, with their thin perpendicular buttresses, and their narrow simple mouldings;* of the same date and workmanship are the whole of the several windows in both transepts, being large and well proportioned, with circular heads, ornamented with the billeted mouldings, and supported on each side by a plain Saxon *(Norman)* pillar, with a rude kind of square frieze and cornice, resembling those which are seen between the lights in the tower. The alterations that have been introduced into the transepts since Walkelin's time, are chiefly found in the windows; a great proportion of these have been changed at different periods, and in various styles and fashions. In many of them, the circular arch, and billeted moulding, are left to remain; and a pointed window, with Gothic mullions, is inserted under them: in others these have been quite taken away, and a pointed arch has been made to receive the window: in like manner, the St. Catherine's Wheel, on the north front of the said transept, is evidently of a later date than the Norman founder."†

The next alterations made in the Cathedral, were executed under the direction of that eminent Prelate Godfrey de Lucy, who

 appears

* "The interlaced arch-work on the upper part of the south transept, above the clock," is also mentioned by Mr. Milner, as part of the original work, but this is evidently of a later date.

† The Catherine Wheel in some degree resembles the circles of tracery-work in the vaulting of Bishop Waynflete's chantry. It might, however, have been inserted by Bishop Fox, or his cotemporary, Prior Silkstede, about the time that the other alterations were made in the Cathedral, that is about the beginning of the sixteenth century. It is probably the largest in England, its diameter being nearly thirteen feet: that at Elgin Cathedral, Scotland, is only ten feet in diameter.

appears to have commenced the rebuilding of all those parts of St. Ethelwold's structure eastward of the high altar, which Walkelin had left standing, together with the Chapel of Our Lady. Dying in 1204, this Bishop was buried, as was the custom, in the centre of his own works, which are supposed to have been completed about three years afterwards. Lucy's work has been mistakenly attributed to the Saxons by the celebrated Warton; but, as Mr. Milner has judiciously observed, there is no person that is a judge of these matters, who viewing the low aisles at the end of the Church, and there seeing, both on the outside and in the inside, " the ranges of short pillars, supporting arches, formed of the upper part of a trefoil, the narrow oblong windows in different compartments, without any mullions, the obtuse-angled or lance-like heads of these and of the arches themselves, the clusters of thin columns, mostly formed of Purbeck marble, with bold and graceful ornaments on the capitals and bases, together with the intermingled quatrefoils inscribed in circles by way of ornament; who will hesitate to pronounce that the said work was executed in the same century with Salisbury Cathedral, namely, the thirteenth, that in which Godfrey de Lucy died."*

The next improvement of the Cathedral, seems to have been undertaken more from a desire to make it assimilate with the richly ornamented architecture of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, than from any particular decay in the structure itself. The real cause was undoubtedly, as Mr. Milner has suggested, a strong sense of the impropriety of suffering the Cathedral of this opulent and dignified bishopric, to remain destitute of those admired decorations connected with the English style, then so recently matured, and particularly, when so many other religious edifices throughout

* History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 15. " Upon comparing together the work of our Godfrey de Lucy, particularly in the ancient part of the Lady Chapel, with that afterwards executed by Richard Poore at Salisbury, we clearly see that the former served as a model for the latter: we must not omit, however, that some windows of a later date have been inserted in a part of this building, no less than in that of Walkelin." Ibid.

throughout the kingdom, "shone forth with all the beauty of tracery, vaultings, spreading columns, shelving buttresses, tapering pinnacles, canopied niches, statuary friezes, and corbels, ramified mullions, and historical windows."

The Prelate who commenced the new alterations was William de Edyngton, Treasurer and Chancellor to Edward the Third, and predecessor in this See to William de Wykeham, to whom all the honor of the undertaking has been generally adjudged: though Edyngton, as will presently be seen, is at least entitled to an equal share. "It is incontestible," observes the author above quoted, "from his will, made and signed in the year of his decease, (1366,) that he had actually undertaken to finish the rebuilding of the great nave of the Church, though he only lived to execute a small part of it; namely, the two first windows, from the great west window, with the corresponding buttresses, and one pinnacle on the north side of the Church; and in like manner, the first window towards the west, with the buttress and pinnacle on the south side of the same."

Considerably more praise is due to Bishop Edyngton, than appears from this extract; and it is somewhat surprising that Mr. Milner, whose sagacity has been so laudably exerted in a critical examination of the architecture of this Cathedral, should have failed in discovering, that not only the three windows which he has mentioned, but *three others* also, in the west front of the fabric, are the work of Edyngton. The great west window, and the two smaller windows on each side of it, corresponding with each other, when compared with the other windows of Edyngton's work, and those of Wykeham's, will appear to any spectator, possessed of the least architectural discrimination, to belong to the work of Edyngton, and not to that of Wykeham. Were we not sufficiently convinced of this fact by the character of the windows in question, which are executed with less elegance than those of Wykeham's, being wider and heavier in their appearance, with a greater number of compartments, and supported by mouldings of a broader and more simple cast, and displaying in every part a plainer stile of workmanship; yet we might be led to doubt whe-

ther an architect skilled in his profession, would have began and finished the two principal angles of a building, without having thought of the *front*, which was to join the said angles: but we have the evidence of history to ascertain this point beyond a doubt. Chandler, in his accurate description of Wykeham's work, says only, that Wykeham "rebuilt anew, from the bottom to the top, the body of this Church, together with the two wings or side aisles, and all the glass windows, from the top of the great western window to the belfry, and erected vaultings in the same curious workmanship." It is evident, therefore, that he does not include, in his description of Wykeham's work, the western window any more than the belfry, which is known to be the work of Walkelin; but, in fact, he is marking the precise extent of Wykeham's work; and the boundaries of it, to the west as well as to the east, are certainly to be understood exclusively. In short, the whole work, as well as every part belonging to these windows, is distinguished by ornaments, and executed in a manner which clearly ascertain them to be the work of Edyngton. The evident proof is this; the trefoils in every compartment, both in the inside and outside, are foliated at the points in the shape of a heart, with certain foliated carvings, which are imitated also in the work of Bishop Fox at the eastern end of the Church. Now, it is clearly apparent, that, if the same ornament be found in the Church of Edyngton, in Wiltshire, which is known to have been built by Bishop Edyngton, who took his name from that place, it would be an almost decisive proof that these windows were built under his direction. In the winter of 1801, the writer had an opportunity of examining that elegant structure, and he was not altogether disappointed: for though, in consequence of occasional destructions, and successive repairs, this ornament has been partially obliterated, yet, in the grand eastern window of the chancel, nine perfect specimens are still to be seen; other specimens may also be found, but particularly in the cenotaph erected to Bishop Edyngton on the south side of the Church; this is profusely decorated with the same kind of ornament. It evidently results from this statement, that the whole, or nearly the whole, of the west front, must be considered

considered as the work of Edyngton; and though not so beautifully proportioned as some other parts of the Cathedral, is yet executed in a style highly creditable to his taste and judgment.

On the death of Edyngton, the completion of his design was undertaken by the immortal Wykeham, and that "from his mere liberality and zeal for the honour of God," as appears from an authentic deed, noticed by his biographer, Bishop Lowth. By the same instrument, the Prior and Convent agreed to "find the whole scaffolding necessary for the work, and gave the Bishop permission to dig and carry away chalk and sand from any of their lands, as he might think convenient and useful for the same purpose." The name of the architect who superintended the works under Wykeham's direction, was William Winford.

The whole of the nave, from the tower to the work of Edyngton, at the west end, is commonly attributed to Wykeham; but this is not altogether accurate, as the original Norman columns, erected by Walkelin, "may be traced not only at the steps leading up to the choir, where there was a sufficient reason for not casing them, but aloft, amid the very timbers of the roof on both sides of the nave, throughout the greater part of its extent, corresponding in every respect, with those which are still seen reaching up to the timbers in the transepts. In like manner the pointed arches between the columns on the first story, upon a close inspection from the inside of the work, above the aisles, will be found not to have been originally built in that manner, but to have been formed by filling up, and adapting to that shape, the old semicircular arches of Walkelin's second story, the form of which may also be seen in the cross aisles."* It is therefore evident, that as much was preserved of the Norman building as could be fashioned into the improved style; and the undue massiveness of the pillars is thus accounted for, from the necessity of casing them with clustered columns.†

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 10.

† In Wykeham's last will, (vide Lowth's Appendix,) dated the year before his death, (1403,) 500 marks are left for finishing the repairs,

The west end of the Cathedral "was now complete in its kind; but the eastern part of it, from the tower to the low aisles of De Lucy, was far from being conformable to the rest, it consisting of the Norman work of Walkelin, repaired and decorated at subsequent periods, when that great and good prelate, Fox, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, undertook to rebuild it." This he accordingly performed, with all the finished elegance that the English style had at that period acquired. "It is impossible," continues Mr. Milner, "to survey the works of this Prelate, either on the outside of the Church, or within it, without being struck with their beauty and magnificence, in which we find the most exquisite art employed to execute the most noble and elegant designs. We cannot fail, in particular, to admire the vast, but well-proportioned, and ornamented, arched windows, which surround this part, and give light to the sanctuary; the bold and airy flying buttresses, that, stretching over the side aisles, support the upper walls; the rich open battlement, which surmounts these walls; and the elegant sweep that contracts them to the size of the great eastern window; the two gorgeous canopies which crown the extreme turrets; and the profusion of elegant carved work which covers the whole east front, tapering up to a point, where we view the breathing statue of the pious founder resting upon his chosen emblem, the pelican. In a word, neglected and mutilated as this work has been, during the course of nearly three centuries, it still warrants us to assert, that if the whole Cathedral had been finished in the style of this portion of it, this Island, and perhaps all Europe," could not have exhibited a structure more beautiful.*

Bishop Fox apparently intended to have altered the transepts into a similar form with the other parts of the fabric, as the side aisles of his construction, are furnished on each side, "with ornamental

pairs, "operis *incepti*." It is therefore a mistake to suppose that the works were completed in the Bishop's life-time. The provisions made for finishing them, occupy a considerable portion of that very curious document.

* History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 19.

ornamental work and windows beyond the line of the transepts, part of which is removed, in order to make room for their admission; as likewise, that the upper tier of windows, being four in number, on the west side of that to the north, was, at the time that Fox's other works were going on, completely altered into the pointed style, and furnished with canopies, busts, and a facia, on which are seen the initials and devices of Fox's cotemporary and friend, Prior Silkstede."*

At the eastern extremity of this venerable pile is the *Chapel of Our Lady*, which exhibits a great variety of rich work, but somewhat overcrowded with ornament, particularly in the windows. This Chapel was enlarged early in the sixteenth century, in the time of Prior Silkstede, as appears from his devices, and the rebusses of his name, which are carved on different parts.

On entering the Cathedral by the west door, before which a considerable quantity of earth and rubbish has been suffered to accumulate, the attention is first arrested by the vast and lofty columns of the nave, which have been judiciously made to assimilate with the pointed style, by surrounding them with clustered pillars, and other ornaments. Each column is about twelve feet in diameter; the space between them, or intercolumniation, is about two diameters only. The view into the choir is intercepted by a Grecian screen, of the Composite order, designed by Inigo Jones, and executed at the expense of Charles the First. This object, from the incongruity of its style to the other parts of the building, and its hue being different from the rest of the stone-work, has a very unpleasant effect: in the niches on each side the opening in the centre, are bronze statues of the above Monarch, and his predecessor, James the First.

Among

* History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 20. The initials of the Prior's name appear enveloped in a skein of silk, with the motto *In gloriam Deo*. In another place, the arms of the Bishopric, the Royal arms of that period, &c. are inscribed with the same motto, in Gothic letters of the tenth century. The upper story of windows to the east of the tower, bear a great resemblance to those which have been attributed to Edyngton.

Among the ornaments on the orbs of the groining, and on the facia below the open gallery that extends on each side of the nave, are the arms and busts of Cardinal Beaufort, and his father, John of Gaunt; together with their devices, the white hart chained,* and other insignia; as also the lily of Waynflete, intermingled with the arms and busts of Bishop WYKEHAM. The space between the fifth and sixth columns, on the south side, is occupied by the tomb and Chantry, or mortuary Chapel, of the last-named Prelate, who caused them to be erected during his life-time, and appointed three monks to say mass in the Chapel, for the repose of his own soul, and the souls of his parents and benefactors: the decease of Wykeham occurred in September, 1404. "The design and execution of the work before us," observes Mr. Milner, "are, perhaps, the most perfect specimens extant of the time when they were performed. The ornaments in general are rich, without being crowded; the carvings are delicate, without being finical. The Chantry is divided in its length, into three arches, the canopies of which, according to a later improvement, are carved to humour the shape of the arches: the middlemost of these, which is the largest, is subdivided below into three compartments, those on the sides consisting of two. There are five tabernacles, or niches, over the head of the monument within the Chapel, besides those on the outside of it, and ten others at the feet, over the ancient altar, for so many statues of Wykeham's patron saints: the foundation of the altar, and a great part of the credence table on the right hand of it, are still visible. The marble figure of this great man, which lies over his mortal remains, exhibits his placid and intelligent features, and is dressed in the episcopal costume. The head rests upon a pillow, supported by two angels; and at the feet are three religious men, in the attitude of prayer."†

Round

* Milner. "This badge of cognizance was given by John of Gaunt, after his return from Castile, at the justings in Smithfield, as Stow reports; yet the King himself, viz. Richard the Second, also adopted for his device, a white hart, crowned, gorged, and sitting."

† History of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 25, 26.

Round the slab on which the figure rests, is the following inscription in brass letters, curiously inlaid:

> Wilhelmus dictus Wykeham jacet hic nece victus:
> Istius Ecclesiae praesul, reparavit eamque.
> Largus erat dapifer; probat hoc cum divite pauper:
> Consiliis pariter regni fuerat bene dexter.
> Hunc docet esse pium fundatio collegiorum:
> Oxoniae primum stat, Wintoniaeque secundum.
> Jugiter oretis, tumulum quicunque videtis,
> Pro tantis meritis ut sit sibi vita perennis.*

The statues which adorned this Chapel, were destroyed in the time of the Civil Wars, and many of the other ornaments were either mutilated or erased. Since the Restoration, it has been twice or thrice repaired; and a few years ago, it was new painted, and partly gilded, by a Mr. Cave, of this city. The charges of reparation are defrayed by Wykeham's two foundations, New College, Oxford, and Winchester College.

Beneath the tenth arch, from the west end, and adjoining to the flight of steps leading towards the choir, is the ancient monumental Chapel of Bishop EDYNGTON, which, though in a similar style of architecture to that of Bishop Wykeham, is by no means so ornamental or complete. On the tomb within is the effigies of Edyngton; and round the slab are Latin inscriptions to his memory, inlaid in brass letters, by which it appears, that he died on the eighth of October, 1366. This Chapel is in a very neglected and mutilated state.

On entering the southern transept from the south aisle of the nave, the original work of Walkelin presents itself; and here are seen

* "William, surnamed Wykeham, lies here overthrown by Death:—He was Bishop of this Church, and the repairer of it.—He was unbounded in his hospitality, as the poor and the rich can equally prove:—He was likewise a sage politician, and Counsellor of the State.—His piety is manifested by the Colleges which he founded:—the first of which is at Oxford, the second at Winchester.—You, who look upon this monument, cease not to pray—that for such great deserts, he may enjoy eternal life." *Milner.*

seen "huge round pillars, and vast circular arches, piled upon one another to an amazing height; not, however, without symmetry, and certain simple ornaments; whilst other smaller columns, without either capitals or bases, are continued up the walls, between the arches, to the roof, which is open to the view. The west aisle of the transept, which is portioned off from the rest, was the ancient Sextry, or Sacristy, and now forms the Chapter-House and Treasury: it seems to have consisted of two separate offices. The entrance was to the north, under two great arches, now stopped up, but still adorned with rich Norman work. Against the west wall of the transept are certain ancient presses, bearing upon them the device of Silkstede, the original use of which seems to have been to keep the great habits, or large outside garments of the monks, but which are now employed to contain the surplices of the choristers and singing men. In the south wall, under the clock, is a door, which conducted into certain offices of the ancient Monastery; and on the right is a calefactory, necessary for preserving fire for the thuribles, or censors, that were used in the ancient service. On the right was another passage into the Sacristy: over this is still seen the stair-case leading to the ancient Dormitories, from which the monks had a ready passage into the choir, to perform their midnight service. The east aisle of this transept is divided into two Chapels: that on the right is called Silkstede's Chapel, from the circumstance of the letters of his Christian name being curiously carved on the open work of the screen which is before it. The adjoining Chapel is probably that in which the remains of Bishop Courtney rest: this Chapel is highly ornamented.* Without it, on the left, near the stone steps that lead up to the iron gate, are two stone coffins, with their lids upon them, standing quite out of the ground. On one of them is a mutilated statue; and on the other, a carved figure of a Cathedral Prior, with all his proper ornaments, surrounded by the following inscription:

Hic

* In the windows are the arms of Cardinal Beaufort, and Dean Young; the latter appears to have fitted up this Chapel for his burying-place.

Hic jacet Willielmus de Basyng, quondam Prior istius Ecclesiae, cujus animae propitietur Deus, et qui pro anima ejus oraverit, tres annos quinquaginta dies indulgentiae percipiet."*

The architecture of the northern transept is equally ponderous and lofty with that of the southern, and the general style of the ornaments the same, it being, as before mentioned, part of the work of Bishop Walkelin. In the o[illegible] part of the transept, there appears to have been five altars; and the whole of it has been decorated with figures of Saints, and other embellishments, some of which still remain. Against the west wall, at the extremity of the transept, are the traces of a colossal figure, evidently intended for St. Christopher, carrying the infant Jesus; above it is a partly obliterated representation of the Adoration of the Magi. The west aisle of the transept, consisting of two Chapels, (in one of which is a bold specimen of the horse-shoe arch,) is now shut up from the body of the Church, in order to form work-shops for repairing the fabric. Under the organ-stairs, beneath an arch, is a mutilated bust in stone, of a Bishop, holding a heart between his hands. This has been removed from beneath an arch, with a corresponding canopy in the southern transept, and is traditionally asserted to represent Bishop Ethelmar, half brother to Henry the Third, who died at Paris, in the year 1261, and whose *heart* was brought to England, and interred in this Cathedral, according to his own desire. Lower down the steps, beneath the organ stairs, is a gloomy Chapel, now almost forgotten; but formerly much resorted to at stated periods, and known by the appellation of the Chapel of the Sepulchre. This is ornamented with various rude and ancient fresco paintings, from the History of the New Testament. In front is a stone coffin, raised a little out of the ground, and carved with a Processional Cross, but without inscription, or any other ornament:

* Here lies William de Basyng, formerly Prior of this Church, to whose soul God be merciful; and whosoever prays for the same, shall obtain *three years* and *fifty days* of *indulgence*. This W. de Basyng died in 1295; his predecessor, of the same name, resigned his Priory in 1284, and died in 1288. *Ang. Sacra, p.* 325. *Regist. de Pontoz.*

ornament: it is supposed to mark the burial-place of one of the Priors of this Cathedral.

Over the flight of steps which crosses the nave before the entrance of the choir, was the ancient Rood-Loft, which in the Catholic times was adorned with a rich crucifix, with the attendant figures of the Virgin Mary, and St. John the Evangelist, given by Stigand, who was Bishop of this See in 1045, and Archbishop of Canterbury in 1052. The Rood-Loft is thought to have been removed on the erection of the Screen in the time of Charles the First.

The *Choir* has a very venerable and solemn appearance, and is remarkable for having the great tower immediately over it, instead of over the space before the entrance, as in most other Cathedrals. The tower was evidently intended to throw light into this part of the fabric; but in the reign of Charles the First, it was injudiciously ceiled, and adorned in the manner it now appears, as the ornaments themselves indicate. In the centre is an emblem of the Trinity, surrounded by the following chronogram; the numeral letters that are here printed in capitals, being gilt in the original, and of a larger size than the others, are easily separated, and when placed in proper order, compose the date 1634, in which year this alteration was made: sINT DoMVs hVJVs pII reges nVtrIth, regInæ nVtrIces pIæ.* The corbels, from which the ribs of the vaulting spring, are formed by four busts, representing the above Sovereign, and his father James the First, in alternate succession, and dressed in the habits of their times: above each bust is an appropriate motto. Among the other ornaments are the arms, initials, and devices, of Charles, and his Queen Henrietta Maria, who are also represented in profile, by a curious medallion: the arms of the then Prince of Wales, of Archbishop Laud, Bishop Curle, and Dean Young,† are likewise depicted here.

The

* May pious Kings be the nursing fathers, and pious Queens the nursing mothers, of this Church.

† The arms of Dean Young are, Argent, three piles sable, charged with an amulet, Or, or Argent. It is remarkable, that wherever the arms

The *Stalls,* which range on each side of the choir, with their misereres,† canopies, pinnacles, and other ornaments, are very ancient; and present a profusion of foliage, crockets, busts, and human and animal figures, boldly designed, as well as executed. On the north side the stalls are terminated by the Pulpit, which, with other ornaments, executed in cane-work, was given by Prior Silkstede. Opposite to the pulpit, on the south side, is the *Episcopal Throne,* which, though elegantly constructed in the Corinthian order, but ill accords with the prevailing style; this was the gift of Bishop Trelawny, about the commencement of the last century.

In the middle of the choir, and opposite to the north and south doors, is the tomb of WILLIAM RUFUS, the last of our Sovereigns that was interred in this ancient mausoleum of Royalty: his bones, however, have been removed, and now repose in one of the mortuary chests that rest on the stone partitions which form the side enclosures of the Presbytery, or altar-part of the choir. The tomb is raised about two feet above the ground, being of the form called *Dos d'Ane,* and consists of grey marble. Though the bones of the King had been long removed, this tomb was again opened during the Civil Wars, and among the remaining ashes was

arms of the See of Winchester have been placed by this Dean, the sword and the key are always transposed. This is not from ignorance in heraldry, but from design: Prior Silkstede, in many places, has done the same. It would appear that the title of Dean having succeeded to that of Prior, or rather out of the two names of Dean and Prior, the former alone, having retained the Deanery as well as Priory, may assume the arms of the Bishopric reversed.

† "That small shelving stool, which the seats of the stalls formed when turned up in their proper position, is called a *Miserere:* on these the monks and canons of ancient times, with the assistance of their elbows on the upper part of the stalls, half supported themselves during certain parts of their long offices, not to be obliged always to stand or kneel. This stool, however, is so contrived, that if the body became supine by sleep, it naturally fell down, and the person who rested upon it, was thrown forward into the middle of the choir."

Milner's History, Vol. II. p. 36.

was found a large gold ring, a small silver chalice, and some pieces of cloth embroidered with gold thread.

The vaulting, which covers the whole choir from the tower to the east window, is the work of Bishop Fox, "and contains, on the orbs of the tracery, a profusion of arms, and other ornaments, curiously carved, and richly painted and gilt, in the highest preservation. Among them are the bearings and devices of the houses of Tudor and Lancaster, together with those of Castile, in honor of John of Gaunt, father of Cardinal Beaufort, the latter of whom left money for ornamenting the Cathedral." Here also are the arms of the Sees of Exeter, Bath and Wells, Durham, and Winchester; over all of which Fox had presided. From the altar to the east window, the vaulting bears none but pious ornaments, being the several implements of our Saviour's Passion, namely, the cross, crown of thorns, nails, hammer, scourges, &c. together with the faces of Pilate, and his wife,* of the High Priest, and many others, all remarkable "for the ingenuity of their design, and the original perfection and freshness which they have retained during almost three centuries."

The elegant partitions above mentioned, which separate the Presbytery from the north and south aisles, are also the work of Bishop Fox; but some portion of the expense of erection was defrayed by the legacy of Cardinal Beaufort, and the donations of some other benefactor, now unknown. These partitions display the arms and mottoes of the above personages, and also the arms of Edward the Confessor, as well as the date 1525, which marks the period of their construction. The arches in the openwork are chaste and highly-finished specimens of the pointed style; but some of the ornaments on the cornices above them, are partly Grecian. Upon the top of these partitions, over the centre of each compartment, are ranged six wooden *Chests*, containing the remains of several of the most exalted personages that have been interred in this Cathedral. The first person that appears to have collected these perishable remnants of humanity, was Bishop de Blois, who lived in the twelfth century: but when the choir was rebuilt by Fox, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, the

 present

present chests were ordered to be made by that Prelate; and the bones being removed into them, they were placed in the situations which they now occupy. Each chest is carved, painted, and gilt, and inscribed with the names and epitaphs of the illustrious characters whose remains they contain. The names inscribed are those of the Kings KINEGILS; ADULPHUS for *Ethelwolph:* KENULPH;* EGBERT; EDMUND; (son of Alfred;) EDRED; CANUTE; and RUFUS; of Queen EMMA; and of the Bishops ALWYN, WINA, and STIGAND.† From the inscription *Hac in cista A. D.* 1661 *promiscue recondita sunt ossa principum et prælatoram sacrilega*

barbarie

* This name is mistakenly referred, by Mr. Milner, to Kenewalch, the son of Kinegils, and joint-founder of the Cathedral; but the person really meant, is Cynewulphus, or Kenulph, who was King of the West Saxons within twenty years of King Egbert. He died in the year 784; and his body is expressly stated to have been buried at Winchester, whereas it is not so certain that Kenewalch was buried here.

Vide Sax. Chron.

† These chests were opened a few years ago, by some officers of distinguished talents and family, belonging to the West York regiment of militia, then quartered in this city. From the account communicated to Mr. Milner, by one of these gentlemen, Henry Howard, Esq. of Corby Castle, in Cumberland, the following particulars are extracted.

"The first chest, inscribed *Kinegils* and *Adulphus*, contains two sculls, and two sets of thigh and leg bones. We measured the sculls and thigh-bones, to discover whether there was any difference in the size from the present race of men; and found the first scull, from the posterior part of the ossa temporis, to measure five inches and three quarters; and the second scull, five inches and a half, and one sixteenth of an inch: these measurements, and indeed those of the others, prove that there was no superiority of size. From the contents of the chest, it does not appear that the bones do not belong to the Kings with whose names it is inscribed.

"The second chest, inscribed *Egbert* and *Kenulph*, contains three sculls, one of which is very small. One thigh-bone wanting a fellow, is very stout, and measures nineteen inches and three quarters in length; but the two leg-bones, one of which is rather deformed, and the two hip-bones belonging to this body, are in the chest, and answer exactly. There are also two other thigh-bones, and two leg-bones, that pair; so

that,

barbarie dispersa A. D. 1642,* which occurs on two of the chests, it appears that the remains of these Sovereigns and Prelates have been confusedly intermingled; and from a late examination of the chests, this is clearly evinced to be the fact: it is even probable, from different circumstances, that the bones had been intermixed before their removal by Bishop Fox. The original epitaph on Queen Emma, which once existed in this Cathedral, is recorded to have been as follows:

Hic Emmam cista Reginam continet ista.
Duxit Etheldredus Rex hanc, et postea Cnutus.
Edwardum parit hæc, ac Hardi-canutum,
Quator hos reges vidit sceptra tenentes.
Anglorum Regum fuit hæc sic mater et uxor.†



Above that, with the exception of the third scull, these may be the bones of the aforesaid Kings.

"Third and fourth chests, bearing the names of *Canute, Rufus, Emma, Wina, Alwyn,* and *Stigand:* neither of these contain any scull; but they are full of tingh and leg-bones, one set of which, in the third chest, is much smaller and weaker than the rest; this, with the supernumerary scull in the second chest, might possibly have belonged to Queen Emma.

"The fifth chest, inscribed *Edmund,* contains five sculls, and three or four thigh-bones. One of the sculls, from the state of the sutures, belonged to a very old man: another also belonged to an old person; these, therefore, might have belonged to Wina and Alwyn.

"The sixth chest, inscribed *Edred,* contains many thigh-bones, and two sculls.—It is to be observed, that the sculls actually at present in the chests, are twelve in number, which is also the number of the names inscribed on the same chests. It will also appear, from the size of the bones, that there was no difference of stature from the present age."

* "In this chest, in the year 1661, were promiscuously laid together, the bones of the Princes and Prelates, which had been scattered about by sacrilegious barbarism in the year 1642."

† "The sense of this epitaph may be thus rendered into English, "*Here rests in this chest, Queen Emma. She was first married to King Ethelred, and afterwards to King Canute: to the former she bare Edward, to the latter Hardicanute. She saw all these four Kings wielding the sceptre; and thus was the wife and mother of English Kings.*"

Above the communion table, which is made to resemble an altar, rises a lofty canopy of wood-work, consisting of festoons, and other carvings in alto-relievo. This heavy and tasteless object, together with the rails, was executed in the reign of Charles the First. Beneath the canopy is fixed the celebrated altar-piece by West, representing *Our Saviour raising Lazarus from the dead.* The design and composition of this picture are extremely fine; and the expression given to the principal figures, is treated with great judgment and truth; though it has been asserted, from a mistaken conception of the passages* from which the subject is derived, that the character of the Redeemer is too placid for the astonishing miracle he is here working. The benignity and philosophic attention of the Apostles are well expressed; and the grace, beauty and sorrow of Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus, are admirably depicted.

Behind, and partly concealed by the canopy and altar-piece, is a magnificently carved *Screen,* in stone-work; supposed to be the richest and most exquisite specimen of the pointed style in England. This was executed in the time of Bishop Fox; and though greatly neglected, and clogged with whitewash, still exhibits an unrivalled delicacy of workmanship. It contains a variety of niches, with richly-ornamented canopies, beneath each of which was formerly a statue; but these having been demolished on the Reformation, their places are now occupied by Grecian urns, a substitution that displays more liberality than taste.† On the spandrils of the doors are fine carvings in basso-relievo, from the history of the Annunciation, &c. of the Blessed Virgin. These are colored, and appear nearly as fresh as when executed 300 years ago.

* St. John, Chap. XI. v. 33—43.

† The expense of erecting them, and of laying down the present rich marble pavement of the Presbytery, was defrayed by a legacy of 800l. bequeathed for the purpose, in 1700, by Dr. William Harris, a Prebendary of this Cathedral.

"Immediately above the base-work of the screen, the eye catches the rich painting of the east window, which, though clouded with dust and cobwebs, still glows with a richness of colors that modern art has been unable to imitate." The stained glass of this window, however, as well as of the others round the choir, are little more than remnants of former splendor, most of the figures having been mutilated and disarranged at the time of the Civil Wars. They chiefly consist of Apostles, Prophets, and Bishops, with appropriate legends and symbols. The design and expression of many of these figures are finely imagined, but their excellence can hardly be perceived without the aid of a glass.

Leaving the choir, and passing into the south aisle, the first object that attracts attention, is the gorgeous Chapel, or Chantry, of BISHOP FOX, which, from the many hours spent by that Prelate in this his destined place of interment, acquired the appellation of Fox's Study. "There is a luxuriency of ornament," observes Mr. Milner, "in the arches, columns, and niches, with which it is covered, that baffles minute description; and might appear excessive, were not the whole executed with exact symmetry, proportion, and finished elegance; and had it not been the architect's intention to shut up this Chapel from the side aisle; even the groining in the small niches, which are multiplied to the number of fifty-five, is a matter of attention and study, it being different in each of them; and yet all are formed on true architectural principles. In an elegant oblong niche under the third arch, lies the figure of the founder, which he, for the sake of humility, and public instruction, chose should be represented as an emaciated corpse in a winding sheet, with the feet resting on a Death's head." Here Fox was buried, as clearly appears from different passages in Godwin, and the Anglia Sacra; though some authors have assigned him a grave in another part of the Cathedral. The openwork of the arches was originally filled with painted glass; but this was destroyed during the troubles in the reign of Charles the First. The roof is ornamented with the royal arms of the house of Tudor, emblazoned and gilt; and, with the founder's own arms, and favorite device, the pelican. The ancient altar has been de-

 stroyed,

stroyed, together with three large statues, and nine smaller ones, that occupied an equal number of niches above it, and which are still in good preservation.

Parallel with the above, and occupying the entire space behind the altar, is another Chapel, in which the early conventual mass was celebrated every morning, immediately after the holding of the chapter: here also was kept the magnificent shrine of St. Swithin, the gift of King Edgar, which is recorded to have been of silver, gilt, and adorned with precious stones.

At the north end of this Chapel, and corresponding in situation, but not in architecture, with Fox's Chantry on the south, is the Chapel of BISHOP GARDINER; an absurd intermixture of the Pointed and Ionic styles, "both indifferent in their kinds." Gardiner was buried in this spot; but his bones are supposed to have been removed out of their sepulture, from a detestation of his character; and the Chapel itself has been much damaged from the same principle. The pavement is entirely torn up, with the exception of a slab, on which are traces of the following inscription in Saxon characters:

Hic jacet Edmundus Rex Edwerdi regis filius.

This stone covered the remains of King Edmund, whose bones are now supposed to rest in one of the mortuary chests of the choir, and whom his father Alfred admitted to a participation of the Sovereignty. Edmund died in the year 870, as appears from the Saxon Chronicle.

On the Screen which separates the work of Bishop de Lucy from that of Fox, on the east side of the three last-described Chapels, is a range of canopied niches, in which formerly were statues of Christ and the Virgin, and of seventeen of the most illustrious benefactors to this Cathedral; but these were entirely destroyed by the iconoclasts of the seventeenth century. In the lower part of this Screen is a small arched way, now blocked up with masonry. "This led down a stone stair-case into the western crypt, immediately under the high altar and sanctuary, which being the destined place for the reception of relics, and for the interment of

persons of eminent sanctity, was hence called *The Holy Hole;* by which name it constantly occurs in the original history of this city."* This receptacle has been erroneously supposed the original burial-place of the personages whose bones are now preserved in the chests round the choir: its real destination, however, is clearly expressed by a Latin inscription over the said vault, and which has been thus translated. *The Bodies of different Saints are here buried in peace, through whose merits many miracles shone forth.*†

In front, and just before the Holy Hole, is a *Slab*, or grave-stone, of a remarkable size, its length being twelve feet, and its width, five: this is asserted by Warton, and other writers on the antiquity of Winchester, to cover the remains of St. Swithin, the great patron Saint of the Cathedral and city. The inaccuracy of this statement was, however, ascertained in the summer of 1797, when the slab was raised, and the grave being purposely opened, in the presence of several gentlemen, a *complete* skeleton was found, with "every rib and joint in its proper place." This was at once demonstrative of the falsehood of the tradition, as the bones of the Saint are known to have been translated from their original burial-place, and the *scull* to have been carried from Winchester to Canterbury, (and deposited there under Christ's Altar,) by St. Elphege, on his promotion to the latter See‡ From the traces of a mitre and crosier on the slab, and the several appear-ances

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 71. † Ibid.

‡ "In quo altari B. Elphegus caput Sancti Swithuni quod ipse a pontificatu Wintoniensi in archiepiscopatum Cantuariensem, translatus secum tulerat, cum multis aliorum sanctorum reliquiis solemniter reposuerat." Gervas. Dorob. De Combust. Et Repar. Dorob. Ecc. apud Twysd, p. 1291.—The principal circumstances that were observed on opening the grave, are thus detailed in a letter quoted by Mr. Milner, from H. Howard, Esq. When the slab was raised, "there appeared an oblong tomb, or opening, seven feet long, and two feet five inches broad, formed of slabs of a fine white stone, (similar to that used in Bishop Fox's Chapel,) neatly polished, jointed with care and art, and as

ances attending the opening of the grave, Mr. Milner, with much probability, supposes the person interred there, to have been Prior Silkstede.

The magnificent Chantries of Cardinal Beaufort, and of Bishop Waynflete, which correspond with each other in form and situation, occupy the middle arches of that part of the Cathedral erected by BISHOP DE LUCY; who lies buried beneath a flat tomb of grey marble, raised about two feet above the surface of the ground, near the centre of his own work, and directly opposite to the entrance into the Chapel of Our Lady. Tradition, as well as the voice of several antiquaries, has pointed this out as the actual tomb of King Lucius, the reputed original founder of this Cathedral. The absurdity of this tale, omitting the fact of its not

as clean and dry as if it had been just finished on that day. After removing about two feet five inches of rubbish, consisting of pulverized stone and decayed mortar, the flat lid of an oak coffin appeared, in a very moist, spongy, and decayed state. The coffin, or rather chest, which contained the bones, was about six feet and a half long, one foot ten inches broad, and not quite one foot deep. In some places it was broken into by the weight of the rubbish, which, in consequence, was found mixed with the bones: there was no lead in the inside, nor any inscription. The bones lay in an undisturbed state; the jaw, and every rib and joint, were in their places; the hands were crossed a little below the short ribs. The vertebræ of the back, and the smaller bones, which lay next the under part of the coffin, were much decayed; but the thigh, leg, and arm bones, were still solid. The thigh bones measured, from the extreme points, only eighteen inches and three quarters: on the scull, which is also small, there remained the impression of linen, or fine stuff, apparently white, but no hair. A black serge, probably a Monk's cowl, seems to have covered the whole body; and on the decay of the flesh, to have adhered to the bones: towards the feet it appeared in folds. The legs were covered with leather boots, or gaiters, sewed on, and neatly stitched; part of the thread was still to be seen, and the leather retained some consistency; it was very damp; I might also say, wet. The soles were pointed at the toe, and very narrow under the middle of the foot; and so small as to scarcely appear of the size of a man's foot: the boot part, which is very wide, and came above the knee, was not adherent to the soles."

having been mentioned in any ancient author, is its own refutation: its origin is, perhaps, equally obvious; the similarity between the names De Lucy, and Lucius, having occasioned the remembrance of the Prelate to be lost in a fond contemplation of the imaginary virtues of the Monarch.

The Chantry of BEAUFORT, observes Mr. Milner, "for elegance of design and execution, would be admired by the generality of spectators, no less than by connoisseurs, as the most elegant in the Cathedral, if not in the whole kingdom, were it not neglected, and consigned to dust and ruin, equally by his family, his foundation, and his Cathedral; to all which he proved so liberal a benefactor. The columns, though of hard Purbeck marble, are shaped into elegant clusters: nothing can exceed the beauty of the fan-work in the ceiling; of the canopies, with their studded pendants; and of the crocketted pinnacles; though of these a horse-load has been taken down, which is kept in one of the neighbouring Chapels. The low balustrade and tomb, the latter of which is lined with copper, and was formerly adorned on the outside with the arms of the deceased, enchased on shields, are of grey marble. The figure on the tomb represents Beaufort in the proper dress of a Cardinal; viz. the scarlet cloak and hat, with long depending cords ending in tassels, of ten knots each. At the upper end of the Chantry, under a range of niches, which have been robbed of their statues, stood the Altar, at which, in virtue of his last Will, (signed only two days before his death,) three masses were daily said for the repose of his own soul, and those of his parents and Royal relations." Round the upper part of the tomb was an inscription on a brass filleting: but this has been long torn off. The features of the Cardinal, as represented by the figure, have a very placid cast: he died on the eleventh of April, 1447.

Bishop WAYNFLETE's Chantry is finished in the same elegant style as that of Beaufort; and from the great attention that is given by his foundation at Magdalen College, to keep it clean, and in perfect repair, is in general regarded as the most beautiful. "The central part of the Chapel, which in Beaufort's monument is left open, is here inclosed with light arch-work, surmounted with an

elegant cornice, in which, and in the work in general, we observe that the arches begin to flatten. The figure of the Bishop appears in his full pontificals, of mitre, crosier, casula, stole, maniple, tunicle, rocket, alb, amice, sandels, gloves, and ring. He is represented in the attitude of prayer, emblematically offering up his heart; which he holds in his hands, in allusion to that passage of the Psalmist; *My soul is always in my hands.*"* Wayntlete died in the year 1486.

The eastern extremity of the Cathedral is terminated by the spacious *Chapel of Our Lady*, and a smaller Chapel, inclosed on each side. The former was originally built by De Lucy, but was lengthened to twice its first extent, by the Priors Hunten and Silkstede; whose initials and rebuses occur both on the groining, and other parts. The most considerable portion of the work was, indeed, completed and ornamented by Silkstede, whose portrait, with the insignia of his office, is yet visible over the piscina. In this Chapel are also traces of various *Fresco Paintings*, executed in the time of the above Prior, and representing different subjects in scriptural, profane, and legendary history; but chiefly relating to the miracles ascribed by the Monks to the prayers of the Holy Virgin. These delineations are now in a very imperfect state, from the various attempts that have been made to deface them: yet are they still curious, from the knowledge which they convey to us of the customs of former times.† The marriage ceremony between Philip of Spain and Queen Mary, was solemnized in this Chapel; and the chair in which the latter sat is yet shown.

On the south of the above is Bishop LANGTON's Chapel, which displays some fine carvings in oak, of vine leaves, grapes, armorial bearings, &c. together with the motto *Laus tibi Christe*, very frequently repeated. Near the centre of the Chapel is the Bishop's tomb, now entirely deprived of its ornaments, though originally extremely

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 60.

† For an explanation of the subjects of as many of these paintings as are not entirely defaced, see Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 64; and Carter's Specimens of Ancient Sculpture and Painting.

tremely elegant. Langton died by the plague in 1500, having been previously elected to the See of Canterbury. The rebus of his name, "a musical note called a *long* inserted in a *tun*," occurs on the groining, amidst a profusion of others.

The Chapel on the north is supposed to be that of Bishop *Orleton*, as the style of the ornaments agree with his age; and Richardson, in his notes to Godwin, asserts, that he was buried in his own Chapel in this Church: no memorial of him, however, remains here. The whole vaulting is covered with the figures of angels. On the north side is the sepulchre of Bishop MEWS, a distinguished partizan of royalty, who served as an officer during all the troubles of Charles the First; and afterwards taking orders, was advanced to many Church preferments by the favor of Charles the Second; and was at length promoted to this See. His episcopal functions do not appear to have repressed his military ardor, as the King's artillery, at the battle of Sedgemore, was guided by his directions, and greatly contributed to the success of the day: his mitre and crosier are suspended over his tomb. Another monument in this Chapel, was erected to the memory of RICHARD WESTON, Earl of Portland, and Lord High Treasurer in the reign of Charles the First. On the tomb is a fine recumbent figure of the Earl, in bronze; and at the side are marble busts of several of his family: he died in the year 1634.

Among the eminent personages interred in this Cathedral, besides those already mentioned, are the following, several of whom have had handsome monuments erected to their memory. Hardicanute, son of the Danish King Canute; Earl Beorn, son of Estrith, Canute's sister; Richard, second son of the Conqueror: the Bishops Peter de Rupibus, Henry de Blois, Giffard, John de Pointes, Richard Toclyve, Woodlock, Horne, Morley, Tremnel, Cooper, Hoadley, Willis, and Thomas; Dean Cheyney; Sir John Clobery, who assisted Monk in planning and effecting the Restoration; Sir Isaac Townsend, Knight of the Garter; the late Earl of Banbury; the late eminent Dr. Joseph Warton; and the celebrated Mrs. Montague. The monuments of Bishop Willis, and Dean Cheyney, and the medallion of Bishop Hoadley, are particularly

2 worthy

worthy of observation. An ancient figure of a *Croisader*, of the princely family of De Foix, in the north aisle, is also deserving of notice.

The last interesting object that remains to be described in this Cathedral, is the celebrated and ancient *Font*, the carvings on the sides of which have frequently exercised the sagacity of antiquaries. "This stands within the middle arch of Wykeham's part of the Church, on the north side, and consists of a square block of dark marble, supported by pillars of the same material; it is covered on the top, and the four sides, with rude carvings, which bespeak its antiquity. The most distinguished ornaments of the top are doves, emblematic of the Holy Ghost, which appear breathing into phials, (surmounted with crosses,) which are supposed to contain the two kinds of sacred chrisms made use of in baptism. The rest of the ornaments of this part consist of Saxon zig-zag, pellets, &c. On the north and east sides, the dove is still repeated in various attitudes, together with a salamander, emblematic of fire, in allusion to the text, "*He shall baptise you with the Holy Ghost and with Fire.*"* The Sculptures on the south and west sides, are of more elaborate design, and, till elucidated by the researches of Mr. Milner, have been constantly referred to events very distant from their original appropriation. The real age of the Font is probably that of Bishop Walkelin, the rebuilder of this Cathedral, and founder of the Church at East Meon, in which there is a Font exactly like the above. The sculptures have generally been thought to represent the most important actions in the life of St. Birinus; but the above antiquary has assigned them to "St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, in Lycia, who flourished in the fourth century, and was celebrated as the patron Saint of children. His name, which was famous throughout Christendom from the time of his decease, became much more celebrated in the west, upon his relics being carried off from the said city, then subject to the Mahometans, to that of Bari in Italy, in an expedition fitted out for that express purpose. This happened

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 76.

pened about the time of the Norman Conquest, a period with which the architecture of the Church, represented on the south side, agrees better than with any other period, either more ancient or later.*"

The

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II, p. 78. The history of St. Nicholas, as abridged by this Gentleman, from *The Portiforium seu Breviarium, in usum Sarum*, from *The Golden Legend*, and from the translation by Surius from the Greek of Simeon Metaphrastes, together with its application to the carvings on the Font, are given in the following extract.

"The first splendid action in the life of this Saint, which gave occasion to his being named the Patron of Children, was his saving the virtue of three virgins, which their father, a man of noble birth, but reduced to poverty, was tempted to make a traffic of. St. Nicholas, to whom his parents had transmitted an ample fortune, hearing of this intention, and of the occasion of it, tied up a considerable sum of gold in a cloth, and, to avoid the ostentation of his charity, threw it by night into the bed-chamber of this unhappy father; who, awakening, and finding a sufficient sum to apportion one of his daughters, immediately married her to a person of equal birth. The same circumstance happening the following night, the father took care to be upon the watch the third night for his unknown benefactor; when, discovering St. Nicholas to be the person, he fell at his feet, calling him the saviour of his own and of his daughters' souls.

"Let us now inspect the south side of the Font, we shall see this history represented, with only those few deviations which are necessary for artists, in order to give a comprehensive view of a complete transaction. A Bishop, with his mitre, crosier, &c. is seen in front of a Saxon Church, representing the Cathedral of Myra. Before him kneels an old man with a long beard, who kissing his hand, at the same time receives from it into his own right hand, a round mass, curiously tied up at the ends, which, with his left hand, he gives to a female figure, as appears by the breasts, long hair, and ornaments. Receiving thus her marriage-portion with her left hand, she holds out her right towards a male figure, with short hair on his head and chin, who is proved to be a man of noble birth, and a fit husband for her, by the hawk which he carries on his fist. In the intermediate space, or back-ground, another of these devoted daughters, with long hair, and the same kind of fillet that her sister wears, is actually celebrating her marriage with a man richly dressed;

The dimensions of the Cathedral, as stated in Milner's, and in Gale's Antiquities, are as follow. Whole length of the Cathedral,

dressed; they join their right hands, whilst her left is placed upon her breast, and his left holds a purse containing a portion.

"The next remarkable incident in the life of St. Nicholas, is his voyage to the Holy Land. Having embarked for this purpose, in a vessel bound to Egypt, he foretold a dreadful storm, which soon overtook, and seemed on the point of overwhelming it. The sailors, who, confident in their nautical foresight and skill, had derided the Saint's prediction, now, with abundance of tears, besought him to pray for their delivery; which, when he had done, the storm was appeased, and they arrived in safety at Alexandria.

"Let us now examine the west side of the Font, which, consisting of four different compartments, is unavoidably crowded. The first of these exhibits a ship, with ropes, a mast, and a rudder, but without any sail, the sure sign of its being in a storm. The vessel admits but of three figures: of these, one is laboring at the helm; a second, with his hand up to his eyes, appears to be weeping; and a third, of superior dignity, with his face averted, and his hands stretched over the waves, seems to be appeasing them by his prayers.

"St. Nicholas being landed at Alexandria, the fame of the abovementioned miracle, and of another which he had wrought at sea, in restoring to life a mariner, who had been killed by a fall from the mast, occasioned a great number of persons, laboring under different disorders and calamities, to be brought to him, all which he cured, and relieved, according to their several wants. Hence, the next compartment to that which we have explained, exhibits two persons with sorrowful countenances, and in a recumbent posture, denoting their being ill, before a Bishop, who, holding one of them by the hand, seems to be raising him up to health; whilst a third, with uplifted hands and joyful countenance, is expressing his astonishment and gratitude for the miraculous cure which he has just experienced. The lowest figure of all, with a cup in his hand, belongs to a different subject, as we shall afterwards shew.

"The most celebrated act in the life of St. Nicholas, next to that of his saving the chastity of the three virgins, was his preserving the lives of three young men of his Cathedral city of Myra, whom the corrupt and cruel Prefect of the same, Eustachius, had condemned to death whilst the Saint was absent in Phrygia, appeasing a popular commotion there,

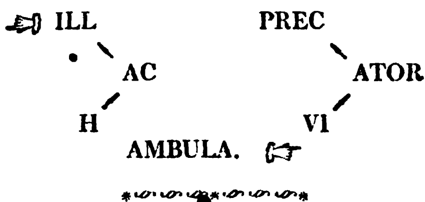
dral, 545 feet; length of the nave, from the west porch to the iron door at the entrance of the choir, 351 feet; length of the choir, 136 feet;

there, which threatened the worst of consequences. Being informed, by a speedy messenger, of what was transacting in the aforesaid city, he flies back to it, and finds the condemned youths at the place of execution, with their necks bared; and a headsman with his uplifted axe on the point of inflicting the fatal stroke; when, rushing forward, he snatches the instrument of death from his hands; and, being aided by the authority of certain imperial officers, of superior rank to Eustachius, whom he had engaged to accompany him for this very purpose out of Phrygia, he orders the young men to be released, and leads them back into the city in triumph. In allusion to this history, we see in the third compartment of this side of the Font, three persons in a recumbent posture, ready to be beheaded; their bodies being covered with a kind of mantle, to save the labor of the statuary. The executioner stands by them with his uplifted axe; over whose shoulder another person appears to be giving orders for the tragedy. The holy Bishop's figure is the next; though, to prevent the necessity of repeating it in so contracted a space, he is represented as attending to another figure, which belongs to a different subject.

"The last story here represented, relates to a miracle ascribed to St. Nicholas after his death. It does not occur in Metaphrastes, who confines his narration to the time of the Saint's life, but is reported at length by Jacobus de Voragine, and is alluded to in the Sarum Breviary. A certain Nobleman being destitute of children, made a vow to St. Nicholas, that if, through his prayers, he should be blessed with a son, he would conduct him, when of a proper age, to the Saint's Church at Myra, and there offer up a golden cup as a memorial of the heavenly favor. His vow being heard, he ordered a rich cup to be made for his intended offering; but when it was brought to him, he was so much pleased with the workmanship of it, that he resolved to keep it for his domestic use; and caused another like it to be made, by way of fulfilling his obligation. Being on his voyage to Myra, with his son and both the cups, he ordered him to reach a little water, for some purpose or other, in that which was first made. The youth, in attempting to perform this, fell over-board, and sunk to the bottom of the sea with the vessel in his hand. The father now reflected with sorrow on his irreligious conduct, in preferring the gratification of his fancy to the exact performance

feet; length of the Chapel of Our Lady, 54 feet; breadth of the Cathedral, 87 feet; breadth of the choir, 40 feet; length of the transept, 186 feet; height of the tower, 150 feet.

Previous to the year 1632, the Cathedral was open as a general thoroughfare into the close and southern suburbs of the city; but this being considered as a disrespectful custom, a new passage, called the *Slype*, was then opened, and commemorated by the following anagrams; the first of which is inscribed on a pier of the Cathedral, near the west entrance of the Slype.

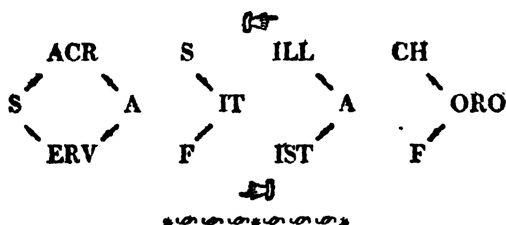


Illac precator hac viator ambula; implying, " That way, thou who comest to pray; this way, thou who art pursuing thy journey, walk." The second inscription is over an arch, at the east entrance of the Slype.

1632

mance of his religious vow. Nevertheless, he pursued his voyage to Lycia, and placed the second cup upon the altar of the Saint; which, as often as he performed, it was always thrown off to a distance. At length, however, whilst the Nobleman was offering up his prayers, and the spectators were meditating on the prodigy they had seen, behold! the lost child suddenly enters into the Church, and relates that, when he fell into the sea, a venerable Bishop had appeared to him, who not only brought him safe to the shore, but also conducted him to the city of Myra. By way of representing this story, we see a child, as appears by his countenance, lying in the water, under the rudder of the ship in one of the former compartments, with a cup in his right hand, finely wrought, and studded with jewels It was a contrivance of the statuary to place the drowning child where the sea had been before represented, in order to find room for exhibiting the completion of the miracle. Accordingly, we see the same child, as appears by the dress and countenance, in the present compartment, bearing the same studded cup in his right hand, and conducted by St. Nicholas, who has hold of his left."

1632
CESSIT COMMUNI PROPRIUM JAM PERGITE QUA FAS.*



Sacra sit illa choro, serva fit ista foro; signifying, "That way is consecrated to the Choir; this way leads to the Market." In forming the Slype, the great buttress near the south-west angle of the Cathedral has been perforated.

The great Cloisters of the Cathedral, which extended 180 feet east and west, and 174 feet north and south, were destroyed during the prelacy of Bishop Horne, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but on the east side of the quadrangle which they formed, is yet remaining a dark, unornamented, ancient passage, or cloister, ninety feet in length, that led to the Infirmary, and other offices of the Monastery. Southward of this is a door-way that conducted to the *Chapter-House*, the site of which now forms the Dean's Garden. "This was a magnificent building, of Norman workmanship, as appears by some of the pillars and arches which formed the seats, still remaining in the walls. It was ninety feet square, and vaulted, having a large pillar in the centre to support the same; and being covered on the outside, above the dormitories, with sheets of lead, which gave occasion for its destruction about the year 1570."† The *Refectory*, or Hall, was about forty-one feet in length, twenty-three broad, and nearly forty high: it is now divided into two stories. "Under the Refectory, and Vestibule, are still to be seen two *Kitchens*, arched over in the Norman fashion,

* Private property has yielded to public utility: proceed now by the way that is opened to thee.

† Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p 92.

fashion, and supported by single pillars in the middle of them, with stone trussels, curiously carved, to support dressers: they are at present divided into different apartments; but it is easy to trace out, that each of them was originally thirty-six feet long, and twenty-six feet broad. To the north of the Kitchen was the Cellarer, or Steward's quarters; and beyond that, near the Church itself, the Buttery."* The *Prior's Hall*, and some other parts of his lodgings, now compose the *Deanery:* the former has been divided into four apartments. Other remains of the conventual buildings may be traced in the vicinity of the Cathedral; and the site of more is occupied by the prebendal gardens.

When the Priory of St. Swithin was surrendered to Henry the Eighth, on the general suppression of religious houses, its annual revenues were estimated, according to Dugdale and Speed, at 1507l. 17s. 2d. Soon afterwards, the site of the Monastic buildings, and great part of the former revenues, were settled on the new establishment, for a Dean, twelve Prebendaries, six Minor Canons, two lay Clerks, eight Choristers, and other members. William Kingsmill, the last Prior, had so effectually conciliated the favor of the rapacious Henry, by his ready compliance with the mandate of surrender, and success in inducing his fellow Monks to follow his example, that he was promoted to the Bishopric of Salisbury in the ensuing year. Many learned persons are recorded as having been members of this foundation, both under its first establishment for regular Canons, and its latter for Benedictine Monks.

One of the most celebrated institutions at Winchester, is the COLLEGE, founded by Bishop Wykeham between the years 1387 and 1393, on the site of an ancient Grammar School, known to have existed before 1136, and probably much earlier.† Wykeham had taken the government of this school, in which he had himself been educated, into his own hands; and the year after he had completed his College at Oxford, he commenced his foundation in

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 96.

† Lowth's Life of Wykeham, p. 72.

this city, intending it as a preparatory seminary for the former. On the completion of the buildings, in March 1393, the Warden, with the rest of the society, " made their solemn entrance into the College, chanting in procession." The whole establishment consists of a Warden, seventy Scholars, ten secular Priests, who are perpetual Fellows, three Priest's Chaplains, three Clerks, sixteen Choristers, and a first and second Master. The statutes drawn up by Wykeham for the government of this College, were considered as so judicious and complete, that Henry the Sixth adopted them, with very little alteration, for his own splendid establishments at Eton and at Cambridge. He did this from a perfect knowledge of the propriety of the regulations, having himself visited Wykeham's College several times, on purpose to observe their effect on the conduct of the society. His satisfaction was evinced by several rich gifts, and a confirmation of many privileges granted to the College by his predecessors, together with some additional liberties. On the confirmation of the act of Henry the Eighth, for dissolving Colleges, Hospitals, &c. in the reign of Edward the Sixth, this foundation, with that of Eton, and those of the two Universities, was favored with a special exemption.

The buildings of this College occupy a considerable space of ground, and have in general a very venerable aspect. The entrance into the first court is beneath " a spacious gateway, the canopy of which is supported by the mutilated busts of a King on one side, and a Bishop on the other; evidently intended to represent the founder and his Royal patron, Edward the Third. In the centre of the groining, under the tower, are seen the arms of the former; and in an ornamented niche on the outside of it, we behold a large statue of his patroness, the Blessed Virgin, crowned, with a sceptre in her right hand, and her divine infant in her left. The middle tower, over the gate leading into the interior court, is ornamented with three beautiful niches, having suitable canopies and pinnacles to adorn them. In the centre niche stands the statue of the Blessed Virgin as large as life, with a book in her left hand, and her right elevated towards the figure of the angel Gabriel, which occupies the niche on the same side, and appears to

be pointing to a label inscribed with the words of the Salutation, *Ave gratia plena*. The founder himself is represented in the third niche, with his mitre, and other episcopal ornaments, invoking the prayers of his holy Patroness. The same figures are repeated in niches on the south side of this tower; whilst over the east end of the Church, a similar statue of the Blessed Virgin* with that in front of the first tower, is seen, but under a much more gorgeous canopy. Passing under the aforesaid tower into the second court, every spectator must be struck with the elegant and uniform style of the ancient buildings with which it is surrounded. In particular, the magnificent Chapel and Hall, which form the south wing of the quadrangle, being supported by bold and ornamental buttresses, and enlightened by lofty and richly-mullioned windows, bespeak the genius of Wykeham, and fill the mind with admiration and delight. Over the western extremity of the Hall, and under a similar canopy to the last-mentioned statue of the Virgin, is the figure of St. Michael, transfixing the old Dragon. A stately tower, with turrets, and pinnacles at the four corners, stands near the centre of this wing, built in the more ornamented style of the fifteenth century, it not being the work of Wykeham himself, but of Warden Thurbern."†

The entrance into the *Chapel* is by a vestibule, with a richly ornamented ceiling. The interior has a very striking effect, arising

 from

* The reason why this figure so often occurs about Wykeham's College, is given by the learned Prelate who has written his life in the following passage. "Wykeham seems, even in his childhood, to have chosen the Blessed Virgin as his peculiar patroness, to have placed himself under her protection, and in a manner to have dedicated himself to her service; and probably he might ever after imagine himself indebted to her special favor, for the various successes which he was blessed with through life. This seems to have been the reason of his dedicating his two Colleges, and calling them by her name; over all the principal gates of which, he has been careful to have himself represented as her votary, in the act of adoration to the Blessed Virgin, as his and their common guardian."

† Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 118.

from the bold and lofty vaulting, which is finely ornamented with tracery, and the "dim religious light," that is diffused around from its "storied windows." These display an uncommon variety of Saints of every description, as Kings, Prelates, and Nuns; and in the great east window is represented the *Genealogy of Christ*, together with the *Crucifixion*, and the *Resurrection*; the latter of which was repaired a few years ago, by Mr. Cave, sen. of this city. The altar-piece, a painting by Le Moine, of the *Salutation*, was presented by the late head Master, Dr. Burton. In the *Ante-Chapel* are the ancient stalls, that were removed from the Chapel in the year 1681, by Dr. Nicholas, together with some curious brasses, and other memorials of his predecessors, whose remains were interred before the high altar.

Extending from the Chapel southward are the *Cloisters*, which are 132 feet square, and appear to have been built early in the fifteenth century. Here are many ancient brasses; some with inscriptions only; others representing Priests in their sacerdotal habits. In the inclosed area is an elegant building, erected as a Chantry, in the year 1430, by John Fromond, a liberal benefactor to both Wykeham's Colleges: the architecture is in the style of that age, and the interior has a strongly groined ceiling. This fabric is now a *Library*, to which use it was appropriated in the year 1627. Many of the books are select and valuable. Other curiosities are also preserved here, particularly an embalmed Ibis, from Egypt.

At the south-west corner of the second court is a flight of steps leading to the *Refectory*, or Hall, which is sixty-three feet long, thirty-three broad, and proportionably lofty. The timbers of the roof are curiously worked and arranged; and the corbels display large busts, colored, of Kings and Bishops. Between the Hall stairs and the passage into the Chapel, is another passage, leading to the play-ground and *School*: the latter is a plain brick building, and was built by subscription, in the year 1687, at the expense of 2600l. Over the door is a fine bronze statue of Bishop Wykeham, executed and given to the Society by the celebrated C. G. Cibber, who was related to the Bishop by marriage: this figure, by a strange perversion of taste, has been gilt and painted. The School-room is ninety feet long, and thirty-six feet wide. At

the

the north end are inscribed the Rules drawn up for the conduct of the students; and which are written in Latin, in the style of the famous *Duodecim Tabulæ* of the Romans.

Many Prelates, and other eminent men, have received the rudiments of instruction at this seminary: among the latter are enumerated Sir Thomas Brown, Sir Thomas Wotten, Sir Thomas Ryves; and the Poets Otway, Philips, Young, Somerville, Pitt, Collins, and Warton.* At

* To render this account of the College complete, it will be necessary to insert the celebrated Ode or Song of DULCE DOMUM, which is publicly sung by the Scholars and Choristers, aided by a band of music, previously to the summer vacation. Its origin, though it can scarcely be traced to a more distant period than the beginning of the last century, is already involved in mystery, as well as the occasion of its composition. Tradition ascribes it to a youth in a state of melancholy, wasting his life in fruitless sorrow, at his separation from his beloved home and friends. The translation annexed, was inserted in the Gentleman's Magazine for March, 1796, with the signature of J. B. It contains far more of the spirit, pathos and harmony of the original, than any other that has appeared; and even considered in itself, is a very beautiful piece of writing.

DULCE DOMUM.

Concinamus, O sodales!
Eja! quid silemus!
Nobile canticum!
Dulce melos, domum!
Dulce domum, resonemus!
Chorus.
Domum, domum, dulce domum!
Domum, domum, dulce domum!
Dulce, dulce, dulce domum!
Dulce domum, resonemus!

Appropinquat ecce! felix
Hora gaudiorum:
Post grave tedium
Advenit omnium
Meta petita laborum.
Domum, domum, &c.

Musa, libros mitte, fessa,
Mitte pensa dura,
Mitte negtoium
Jam datur otium
Me mea mittito cura.
Domum, domum, &c.

Ridet annus, prata rident;
Nosque rideamus.
Jam repetit domum
Daulius advena:
Nosque domum repetamus.
Domum, domum, &c.

Heus! Rogere fer caballos;
Eja! nunc eamus,
Limen amabile
Matris et oscula,
Suaviter et repetamus.
Domum, domum, &c.

Concinamus ad Penates,
Vox et audiatur;
Phospore! quid jubar,
Segnius emicans,
Gaudia nostra moratur?
Chorus.
Domum, domum, dulce domum!
Domum, domum, dulce domum!
Dulce, dulce, dulce domum!
Dulce domum, resonemus!

TRANSLATION.

At a short distance north-east from the College, are the ruins of the celebrated Episcopal residence, called WOLVESEY CASTLE, which was erected on the site of a more ancient Palace, by the Bishop, Henry de Blois, in the century immediately succeeding the Conquest; the exact date, as fixed in the *Annales Wintonienses*, being 1138. Part of the materials made use of in this building, were brought from the Royal Palace that had been raised by the Conqueror, on the north-west side of what is at present the Cathedral burial-ground, and which De Blois had purposely pulled down as an encroachment on the Church lands. The strength of his Castle was

TRANSLATION.

Sing a sweet melodious measure,
Waft enchanting lays around;
HOME, a theme replete with pleasure,
HOME, a grateful theme, resound!

Chorus.

Home, sweet home! an ample treasure!
Home! with ev'ry blessing crown'd!
Home! perpetual source of pleasure!
Home! a noble strain resound!

Lo! the joyful hour advances,
Happy season of delight!
Festal songs, and festal dances,
All our tedious toils requite.
Home, sweet home! &c.

Leave, my weary'd muse, thy learning,
Leave thy task, so hard to bear,
Leave thy labour, ease returning,
Leave my bosom, O! thy care.
Home, sweet home! &c.

See the year, the meadow smiling!
Let us then a smile display;
Rural sports, our pain beguiling,
Rural pastimes call away.
Home, sweet home! &c.

Now

was soon evinced by the siege which it withstood against the united forces of Robert, Earl of Glocester, and David, King of Scotland; and this circumstance, combined with the Bishop's subsequent conduct, was probably the occasion of its being dismantled by Henry the Second, immediately on his coming to the Crown, together with the Bishop's other Castles, at Waltham and Merden. It appears, however, to have been repaired, and to have again become a place of considerable strength, as Bishop Ethelmar, with the "other three half-brothers of Henry the Third," fled hither from the Parliament at Oxford, to secure themselves from the vengeance of the assembled Barons. Yet the Castle was quickly taken, and probably dismantled more effectually than before, as nothing further is mentioned of it as a place of strength; though Leland describes it as "a Castelle, or Palace, welle tourid;" and it still seems to have continued to be the accustomed residence of the

Now the swallow seeks her dwelling,
And no longer loves to roam;
Her example thus impelling,
Let us seek our native home.
Home, sweet home! &c.

Let our men and steeds assemble,
Panting for the wide champaign;
Let the ground beneath us tremble,
While we scour along the plain.
Home, sweet home! &c.

Oh! what raptures, oh! what blisses,
When we gain the lovely gate!
Mother's arms, and mother's kisses,
There our blest arrival wait.
Home, sweet home! &c.

Greet our household-gods with singing;
Lend, O Lucifer, thy ray:
Why should light, so slowly springing,
All our promis'd joys delay?
Home, sweet home! &c.

Bishops when at Winchester, till it was finally destroyed by Cromwell, in the year 1646.

The principal ruins that now remain, belonged to the Keep: "this appears to have been an imperfect parallelogram, extending about 250 feet east and west, and 160 north and south. The area, or inside of the quadrangle, was 150 feet in length, and 110 in breadth, which proves the wings of the building to have been fifty feet deep. The tower which flanks the Keep to the south-east is square, supported with three thin buttresses, faced with stone. The intermediate space, as well as the building in general on the outside, is composed of cut flints, and very hard mortar, a coat of which is spread over the whole: the north-east tower, which advances beyond its level, is rounded off at the extremity. In the centre of the north wing, which has escaped better than the other wings, is a door-way leading into a garden, which is defended by two small towers, and has a pointed arch: hence there is reason to suspect that it is of more modern construction than the rest of the building. The inside of the quadrangle, towards the court, was faced with polished free-stone, as appears from the junction of the north and east wings, which is the most entire morsel in the whole mass, and exhibits a specimen of as rich and elegant work as can be produced from the twelfth century: we there view the pellet ornament, and triangular fret, which adorn the circular arches, still remaining; together with the capitals, and a corbel bust, executed with a neatness unusual at that early period."*

Very little remains of the west and south wings, the ruins of these having probably been cleared away to make room for the offices of the new Episcopal Palace, began here by Bishop Morley, under the superintendence of Sir Christopher Wren. The Episcopal *Chapel,* at the south-west end of the quadrangle, is yet standing; but this, from its style of architecture, is probably not of an earlier age than that of Henry the Seventh. The front of the new Palace was pulled down by the present Bishop about twenty years ago. Wolvesey is stated to have derived its name from the celebrated tribute of wolves' heads, imposed on the Welsh by King Edgar; and which, it

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 135.

it is positively asserted, was ordered to be paid here.* The precincts of the Castle were originally considerably more extensive than they appear from the present remains.

WINCHESTER CASTLE, of which scarcely any parts are now standing, was built, as already mentioned,† by William the Conqueror, and occupied the commanding spot at the south-west angle of the city, where the King's House, or Palace, erected by Charles the Second, now stands. This fortress has been the scene of many important transactions, some of which have been related.‡ In the reign of King John, it was besieged, and taken by the Dauphin of France; but in the reign of Henry the Third, it successfully resisted the attacks of Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, and the Barons under his command: the city, however, suffered greatly, and many of the inhabitants were ill-treated, and even murdered. In the reign of Edward the Third, the famous Wykeham was for some time Constable of this Castle, and here his first essays in military architecture are generally supposed to have been made. James the First bestowed the fee-simple of the Castle on Sir Benjamin Tichborne, and his descendants, from whom it was seized by the Parliament; and after the Castle had been dismantled by Cromwell, the estate and remains were granted to Sir William Waller, whose sister had married the real owner, Sir Richard Tichborne. Waller, or his son, sold the Chapel which had been left standing, to certain feoffees, for the purpose of converting it into a *County Hall,* to which destination it has ever since been applied. The rest of the Castle precincts were sold to the Corporation of Winchester, and from them to Charles the Second, as already stated, for the trifling consideration of five shillings! In the erection of the Palace, now called the *King's House,* by this Monarch, the ruins of the demolished Castle were chiefly consumed: the death of Charles put an end to the progress of the building, which, had it been completed according to the original design

* Trussel's MSS. ex. Archiv. Ecc. Cath.

† See page 35. ‡ See pages 38, 40, and 45.

design given for it by Sir Christopher Wren, would have been the most stately edifice of the kind in England.*

"The whole area of the Castle," observes Mr. Milner, "was about 850 feet in length, north and south; and 250 in breadth, east and west: it became, however, much narrower, at the north extremity, where a wall, that followed the slope of the ditch, united it with the west gate. Of the above-mentioned space, the Keep, or Donjon, which was at the same time the strong part of the fortress, and the chief habitable part of it, occupied a square of about 100 feet, being situated on the summit at the south end, and communicating with the fortifications of the city, by a similar wall to that described above. The said Keep was flanked with a tower at each corner; and a fifth tower stood over the entrance of it fronting the north: but the Castle gate, leading into the fortifications at large, looked to the west. Directly opposite to this, on the other side of the ditch, was a barbican, or turret, in the nature of an out-post. The aforesaid gate consisted of a strong double tower; besides which, there were three other towers, at convenient distances to strengthen the north part of the fortifications, as the five towers of the Keep protected the south part of it. The original form of all these towers was square, and the materials of them was flint, or other coarse stone, and a very fine kind of mortar." It has, however, been incontestibly proved, from some late discoveries, "that the two towers of the Keep, which were principally in sight of the city, namely, those to the north-east, and to the south-east, had been altered into a circular, or rather into an oval form, according to a fashion that prevailed in succeeding ages to those of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The inside of the north-east tower, which is still visible, presents an oval chamber, truncated where it joins the body of the Keep, twenty-four feet in length, and twelve in breadth. The walls were nine feet thick, being faced and lined with polished free-stone:

* In the first volume of Milner's Winchester is a fine engraving of [illegible] building, from a colored drawing, by the architect himself; toge[illegible] with two views of the Castle in its ancient state.

free-stone: it was neatly vaulted; the brackets, to the number of six, that supported it, and part of the springers, which are highly finished, still remaining. The stone steps, leading into a kind of cellar beneath, which was probably one of the Castle dungeons, are also still to be seen. The north-west tower seems to have been the most considerable in extent, and had a terrace adjoining to it in the inside. The keep had an extensive ballium, or glacis, fortified with walls and turrets, encompassing it on the west and south sides. The ditch varied in its depth and breadth; the level of the Keep, where the ground was highest, must have been at least 100 feet deep, and as many broad; for it is certain that all the military ditches of the Castle, as well as those of the city, were dug to such a depth, as to admit the water of the river to flow freely through them,"*

The *Chapel*, or, more properly, from its modern appropriation, the *County Hall*, was originally dedicated to St. Stephen, and is supposed, from its style and materials, to have been built about the time of the Monarch of that name. It is 110 feet in length, and consists of a nave and side aisles; but the appearance of the interior has been entirely changed, through the alterations that have been made in it for the purposes of public business. At the east end is suspended the famous curiosity called *Arthur's Round Table*, which tradition has attributed to King Arthur; but modern inquiry, with more accuracy, to King Stephen, who appears to have introduced the use of the Round Table into this Island, to prevent disputes for precedency among the chivalrous Knights of his age. It consists of stout oaken planks, painted with the figure of the British Arthur, and the names of his twenty-four Knights, as collected from the romances of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries: the costume and characters are of the time of Henry the Eighth, when it was first painted; in the centre is a rose. Its diameter is eighteen feet: in

* History of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 169, 171. Mr. Milner professes to have derived his ideas of this Castle from an attentive consideration of its ruins, ditches, and situation; from discoveries made on the spot by digging; from the hints that occur in ancient writers; and from the slight sketch of it in Speed's Chorography.

in several places it has been perforated by bullets, supposed by Cromwell's soldiers. The traditions connected with it, are thus noticed in one of Warton's beautiful sonnets:

> Where Venta's Norman Castle still uprears
> Its rafter'd Hall, that o'er the grassy foss,
> And scatter'd flinty fragments clad in moss,
> On yonder steep, in naked state appears,
> High-hung, remains the pride of warlike years,
> *Old Arthur's Board;* on the capacious round
> Some British pen has sketch'd the names renown'd,
> In marks obscure, of his immortal peers.
> Though join'd with magic skill, with many a rhyme,
> The Druid frame, unhonour'd, falls a prey
> To the slow vengeance of the wizard Time,
> And fade the British characters away:—
> Yet Spenser's page, that chants in verse sublime,
> Those Chiefs, shall live unconscious of decay.

The ancient precincts of the Castle extended nearly to the *West Gate,* which is the only one of the original entrances now remaining of the kind into this city; the North, East, and South Gates, having been demolished by the Commissioners of the Pavement, appointed under an act passed in the year 1770. This Gate has itself been much altered: part of it is supposed to be of the same age as the City Walls; but the machiolation, the grooves for the portcullis, the busts, the shields inscribed in quatrefoils, and, in general, the whole western facing, display workmanship of much later date. Adjoining to the Gate, on the outside, are some remains of an ancient Chapel, called St. Mary in the Ditch. The ruins of the Wall, extending on the north side, are fringed with shrubs and ash trees. At a little distance from the gate are the remains of a turret, which, with another of the same description, "defended the intermediate space of the wall, as far as what is called the Hermit's Tower, at the northern extremity." The north Wall of the city, consisting chiefly of flints, and strong cement, retains its full height in some places, and is embattled, having copings of free-stone: the ruins of several turrets on this side may also be

 traced,

traced. On the east side, the Wall "had the main arm of the river Itchin for its military foss;" and this, as appears from a charter granted by King Edmund to his sister Edburga, and the Abbey of St. Mary, was then (before 960) navigable in this part. From the East Gate southward, the Wall was extended beyond its original bounds, by the founder of Wolvesey Castle, so as to form an obtuse angle; and being strongly fortified with towers, became the outwork of that fortress. On the south side, the entrance into the city was by a drawbridge. On the south-west part, the ancient tract of the Wall was extended by the fortifications of the Royal Castle, in the same manner as on the Wolvesey side by those of the Episcopal Castle. The original form of the City, as bounded by the Walls, is that of the Roman camps in general, viz. a parallelogram, with the angles rounded off; and the principal parts of Winchester are still included within the space described by this figure.

In the High Street, and nearly in the centre of the city, but partly obscured by the situation of some contiguous buildings, stands the CITY CROSS, an elegant specimen of the style of the age in which it was built, that of Henry the Sixth. It consists of three stories, adorned with open arches, niches, and pinnacles, surmounted with small crosses. The remains of the cross at the top still crowns the ornamented shaft, which rises from the base; and under one of the canopied niches, on the second story, is a statue generally said to represent St. John the Evangelist; but, from its wanting the appropriate symbols of that Saint; and from its "bearing a palm branch, the sure token of a martyr," Mr. Milner, with more probability, refers it either to St. Laurence, or St. Amphibalus: to the first of whom the Church near which it stands was dedicated; and the latter of whom was once the Patron Saint of the Cathedral. This structure was erected by a *Fraternity of the Holy Cross*, an order which is said to have been instituted by Henry the Sixth: its preservation has been owing to the spirit of the inhabitants, who rose in its defence, and drove away the workmen employed to take it down about the year 1770, under an order of the Commissioners of Pavement, by whom it is said to have been clandestinely sold to

ornament

ornament the grounds of a neighbouring gentleman. The height of this Cross is forty-three feet.

The ecclesiastical buildings in this city, and its suburbs, were formerly extremely numerous; the Churches and Chapels alone, amounting to upwards of ninety; and several having Colleges and Monasteries attached to them. Scarcely twelve of them now remain; the others having been destroyed by the effects of war, or otherwise. The Church dedicated to *St. Laurence*, near the City Cross, and which can hardly be seen for the buildings that surround it, is considered as the mother Church; "hence the Bishop takes possession of his diocese, by making a solemn entry into this little edifice." The principal parochial Church is that dedicated to *St. Maurice*, which was formerly collegiate: the porch, though much obscured, exhibits specimens of Saxon workmanship.

The *Town-Hall*, or, more properly, the *Hall of the Guild of Merchants of Winchester*, was rebuilt in the year 1713, on the site of a more ancient Hall, erected in place of a former one recorded to have been burnt down in 1112. Here the city archives, the original Winchester Bushel given by King Edgar, with other measures, both for quantity and length, fixed as standards by succeeding Princes, and various curious memorials of antiquity, are still preserved. In front is a good statue of Queen Anne, presented by George Brydges, Esq. who was a representative of the city in seven successive parliaments. The *Market-House* is a neat building, erected in 1772, for the sale of butter, eggs, poultry, &c. Before this edifice was completed, the above articles were exposed for sale round the City Cross, and in the *Pent-House*, an ancient piazza, extending from the Cross, on the south side of the High Street.

Among the other public buildings that require notice, is the ancient structure on the north side of the High Street called *St. John's House*, originally founded as an Hospital, and that apparently so early as the tenth century, as appears by the following passage from Leland's Itinerary: "Hard by is a faire Hospitale of St. John, wher pore syke people be kept: ther is yn the Chapelle an ymage of St. Brinstane, sumtyme Bishop of Wynchestre; and I have redde that St. Brinstane founded an Hospitale yn Winchestre." St.

Brinstan

Brinstan died in the year 934; he was particularly remarkable for his charity to the poor. This Hospital is thought to have afterwards become the property of the Knights Templars, or to have fallen under their administration, as the same year in which that order was suppressed, a rich citizen and magistrate of Winchester, obtained permission of the King, Edward the Second, to re-found it "for the sole relief of sick and lame soldiers, poor pilgrims, and necessitated way-faring men, to have their lodging and diet gratis there, for one night, or longer, as their inability to travel might require." Sufficient endowments were at the same time given for its maintenance, and the management vested in the Corporation, who appear, even as early as this period, to have used it as a Public Hall. At the Dissolution, in the time of Henry the Eighth, the revenues of this institution were, with all the moveable property, confiscated to the King's use; but the Corporation were suffered to retain the bare walls for civil purposes. In 1554, it once more became a charitable foundation, being endowed for the support of six poor widows, by Richard Lamb, Esq. each of these has a separate apartment on the north side of the main building. The principal chamber, or hall, which is sixty-two feet in length, thirty-eight broad, and twenty-eight high, has been fitted up in an elegant style, chiefly by a donation of the late COLONEL BRYDGES, of Avington, who left 800l. for the purpose. The portrait of this gentleman, and a very fine whole length of CHARLES THE SECOND, in his robes of state, by Sir Peter Lely, presented by the Monarch himself to the Corporation, are among the decorations of this apartment; and here the public feasts, music-meetings, and assemblies, are held. In an adjoining room, called the Council Chamber, are suspended the *City Tables,* which display a brief chronological arrangement of the most important transactions relating to this city. The ancient Chapel of the Hospital is now used as a *Free School.*

The celebrated Monastery founded by the great Alfred in this City, called the *Newen Mynstre,** and afterwards HYDE ABBEY, originally occupied nearly the whole space between the Cathedral on

* See page 28.

on the north, and the High Street. Alfred dying soon after the commencement of the work, it was completed by his son, Edward the Confessor, and placed under the direction of Alfred's esteemed friend, St. Grimbald, who was prevailed on to establish it for canons regular. These were expelled by Bishop Ethelwold, in the year 963,* and their place supplied by Benedictine monks. Alwyn, the eighth Abbot from St. Grimbald, was uncle to the unfortunate King Harold, and, with twelve of his monks, assisted that Sovereign in the field at the Battle of Hastings, where he was himself slain, together with all his companions. "This behaviour of the Abbot so enraged the Conqueror, that he treated the New Minster with more than his usual tyranny; seizing upon all its estates, and keeping the Abbey itself in his hands for a long time, without allowing a new Abbot to be chosen." Three years afterwards, his anger being appeased, he permitted the monks to elect a superior, restored some of the Abbey lands, and gave other possessions in exchange for the remainder.

The next remarkable event in the history of this foundation, occurred in the reign of Henry the First, at which time its situation had become exceedingly unwholesome, through the stagnation of a stream of water, which had been brought from the river through the heart of the city, to supply the ditches which had been dug round the Castle erected by the Conqueror. This inconveniency, combined with another, that had been endured even from the building of the Abbey, namely, the interruption that frequently arose from the contiguity of the Abbey Church to the Cathedral, by which the voices and organs of the two choirs were confusedly interminged, gave origin to a plan for rebuilding the Abbey at a greater distance. The design being approved equally by the King and Bishop, and by the inmates of both Monasteries, the spot called Hyde Meadow, just without the north wall of the city, was chosen for the site of the new edifice. Here a magnificent Church and Monastery were erected, chiefly at the expense of the King; and in the year 1110, the monks removed to their new abode, carrying

* Tanner's Notitia.

ing with them not only the relics of the Saints Grimbald and Judocus, the latter of which had been brought from Picardy, but also the remains of the illustrious personages that had been buried in their old Church, and which were now re-interred at Hyde. Among the remains thus removed, were those of Alfred, his Queen Alswitha, and his sons Ethelward and Edward the Elder; Alfred, Elfleda, and Ethelhilda, children of Edward the Elder; and King Edwy.

In the succeeding reign, that of the Usurper Stephen, Hyde Abbey, as before stated,* was burnt to the ground, in the conflagration occasioned by the fire-balls that were thrown on the buildings in the possession of the forces of Matilda, from the Bishop's Castle at Wolvesey. This destructive measure has been attributed to the advice of the Bishop himself, but unjustly; though it is certain that a canonical process was instituted against him, for seizing, and converting to his own use, the gold and silver of a great cross, enriched with precious stones, which had been given to the Abbey by Canute, and was melted in the flames. In the reign of Henry the Second, the buildings were restored with increased magnificence; and the possessions of the Abbey having become very great, from the various grants it had received from many Royal and noble benefactors, its Abbot was invested with the privilege of sitting in Parliament. On its surrender to the commissioners of Henry the Eighth, in April, 1538, its annual revenues were, according to Dugdale, computed at 865l. 18s. 0½d. The Church, and principal offices of the Monastery, were demolished so soon afterwards, that Leland speaks of the Abbey, in the past tense, as having "stoode in this suburbe." Even the tombs of the illustrious dead were broken into; for we are assured by the same author, that "two little tables of lead, inscribed with the names of Alfred, and his son Edward, were found in the monument containing their remains." Very little of the Monastic buildings are now standing: the principal remain is the small and mutilated Parish-Church of St. Bartholomew, the east end of which is in ruins; at the west

 end

* See page 39.

end is a square heavy tower. "This Church never formed part of the Abbey itself; but, like the Parish-Church of St. Swithin, with respect to the Cathedral, was intended for the benefit of the servants and other lay persons belonging to the Monastery."* Some ruinous out-houses, and parts of a large barn, comprise the remainder of the ruins. On the exact site of the Church a new *Bridewell* was erected a few years ago, according to the plan of the benevolent Howard. In digging the foundations, many stone coffins, with chalices, patins, rings, &c. were met with; together with busts, capitals of columns, and other fragments of ornamental sculpture. The most interesting curiosity, however, that has been found among the remains of this Abbey, is the stone inscribed ALFRED REX, DCCCLXXXI, in Saxon characters: this was discovered between forty and fifty years ago, and is now in the possession of H. Howard, Esq. of Corby Castle, Cumberland.

Another of the religious establishments of this city, of which it is requisite to detail some particulars, was the Nunna Mynstre, or ABBEY OF ST. MARY, which had been founded by Alswitha, Alfred's Queen, and afterwards became the place of her retirement on the demise of her Royal consort. Here also Edburga, a daughter of Edward the Elder, passed her devout life, and became Abbess. In the time of King Edgar, additional endowments were bestowed on this foundation by Bishop Ethelwold, who, in conjunction with his friend, the celebrated St. Dunstan, increased the strictness of its discipline according to the new regulations prescribed for the observance of Benedictines. Many West Saxon females, of Royal and noble parentage, were admitted into this community; and here Matilda, the celebrated Queen of Henry the First, and direct descendant from Edmund Ironside, received her education. The usurpation of Stephen proved the destruction of the first Abbey; for this also, like the New Minstre, was burnt by the throwing of fire-balls from Wolvesey. In the next reign, the buildings were reinstated, towards the expense of which Henry the Second is thought to have been a considerable benefactor.

On

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 227.

On the Dissolution of the lesser Monasteries, this Abbey, whose annual revenues only amounted to 179l. 7s. 2d. would have fallen in the common wreck, if its then Abbess, Dame Elizabeth Shelley, had not averted the storm, by the sacrifice of the manors of Allcanning and Archefount, in Wiltshire, which were alienated in favor of Lord Edward Seymour, and Lady Anne, his wife; the latter of whom, according to the surmise of Dugdale, the repacious Henry had "some private reason to oblige." The Abbey continued to flourish about four years longer, when, at the final Dissolution, all its possessions were swept away; the Abbess, and eight of her nuns, having small annuities granted them; and the rest of the community being turned out without any provision. Scarcely any vestige of the conventual buildings can now be traced, excepting in a large modern mansion, in the construction of which the materials were used; and in the name of *Abbey*, by which the whole extent of its ancient inclosure is still called.

An extensive *County Gaol*, from the designs, and under the direction of the architect, Mr. Moneypenny, is now building in this city. The internal arrangement is agreeable to the plan of the celebrated Howard; and has for its objects, the health, cleanliness, and morals, of the prisoners.

Here are several Meeting-Houses for Dissenters of different denominations; the principal of which is the Roman Catholic *Chapel*, dedicated to *St. Peter*, and standing in the Street of that name. This structure was rebuilt on the foundations of a more ancient Chapel, in the year 1792. The designs from which it was constructed, were principally executed by Mr. Carter: the general idea was to give a modern imitation of the English, or Pointed style, with its corresponding decorations in the middle ages; and this intention was completed as far as the limited state of the finances appropriated for the purpose would admit. The building itself is coated with stucco, resembling free-stone; and has "mullioned windows, shelving buttresses, a parapet, with open quatrefoils, and crocketted pinnacles, terminating in gilt crosses." The windows are twelve feet high, and four feet, six inches broad: the canopies over these rise from corbel heads of

Bishops and Sovereigns, with their respective emblems; and the frieze is charged with the emblems and initials of St. Peter. A neat vaulted porch leads into the interior, which is fitted up in imitation of older buildings; and many of the ornaments have a particular connection with the history of Winchester; others have been modelled from the antiquities that remain in it. The altar-piece was painted from a copy of Raphael's famous picture of the *Transfiguration*, by Mr. Cave, sen. of this city. The windows are glazed with ground glass, richly painted with quatrefoils, and cross patés, and further adorned with figures of the most celebrated Saints and Kings that have flourished in Winchester. Opposite the windows, which are confined to the north side, are paintings in chiaro oscuro, from Scripture History. At the entrance of the walk leading to this Chapel, is a curious *Norman Portal*, that was removed hither from the Church of St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital, which stood on a hill to the north of the city, and was pulled down a few years ago. The mouldings of the arch are plain, and undercut; they rise from two columns on each side, having bold capitals and bases. St. Mary's Hospital is supposed to have been founded by Bishop Toclyve, in the twelfth century.

Many privileges have, at various times, been granted to the inhabitants of this city, by different Sovereigns. Its Chief Magistrate, as already stated,* had the title of Mayor conferred on him, by Henry the Second, in 1184, some years before that appellation was known even in the capital itself. The first charter of incorporation was granted by King John; but the charter by which the city is now governed, was given by Queen Elizabeth; and, as declared in the preamble, "in consideration of the city of Winchester having been most famous for the celebration of the nativities, coronations, sepulchres, and for the preservation of other famous monuments of the Queen's progenitors." By this charter the government is vested in a Mayor, Recorder, six Aldermen, a Town-Clerk, two Coroners, two Constables, and a Council of twenty-four of the "better, discreeter, and more honest sort," of inhabitants.

* See page 41.

inhabitants. The Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, are Justices of Peace. The first return from this city to Parliament, was in the twenty-third of Edward the First. The right of election is vested in the Corporation.

Winchester has very little trade, but what immediately arises from its advantageous situation, in the very centre of the county; though an ancient wool-combing manufactory still exists in it; and of late years, the silk manufacture has been introduced. All the public business of Hampshire is, however, transacted here; "and there is never an interval of many weeks, without a great conflux of strangers on that account, to the great emolument of the inhabitants: the same circumstance accounts for the number of gentlemen of the law who live here. Its Cathedral, and its College, insure to it the residence also of a considerable number of superior clergy, with their families. The upper class of inhabitants, being well educated, and consisting of fixed residents, who are known to each other, live in the most friendly and social intercourse; and the lower rank are, in general, better taught, and more civil, than persons in the same situation in most other places. The provisions which the neighbouring country produces, are of the very best quality; the coveys also abound with game, and the rivers teem with trout, and other fish."* Its situation, in the vicinity of the sea, with which there is a direct communication by a navigable canal, at least as ancient as the reign of King John, is also the means of its obtaining the heavy commodities and merchandise of other counties, at a reasonable rate. When in the height of its prosperity, and possessing the benefit of the wool-staple, its wealth was greatly increased by the multitudes that flocked to its different fairs; the principal of which were held on the neighbouring hills of St. Giles, and St. Mary Magdalen.

St. Giles's Fair was at one period by far the greatest in England. It was originally held for *one day* only, in virtue of a grant from William the Conqueror to Bishop Walkelin, his cousin. "William Rufus extended it to three days; Henry the First to

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 449, 450.

to eight; Stephen to fourteen; and Henry the Second to sixteen days. During the said time of the fair, the shops were shut up, and no business was allowed to be transacted throughout the whole city, in Southampton, or, in short, within the distance of seven leagues from the hill in every direction. On the eve preceding the festival of St. Giles, (September the tenth, N. S.) when the fair began, the Mayor of the city gave up the keys of the four city gates, and with them his authority, to a temporary Magistrate appointed by the Bishop, and did not resume the same until the fair was concluded. In the mean time, collectors were appointed at Southampton, and Redbridge, and on all the roads leading to the city, to exact the appointed duties upon all merchandise that was brought here for sale. This fair was in the highest repute of any throughout the Kingdom; merchants resorted to it not only from the most remote parts within land, but also from places beyond the sea. It formed a kind of temporary city, which was entirely mercantile; consisting of whole streets appropriated to the sale of particular commodities, and distinguished by their several names; as the Drapery, the Pottery, the Spicery, the Stannery, &c. At length, in the reign of Henry the Sixth, this celebrated mart was observed to be on the decline; the stand appointed for those who brought certain articles for sale from Cornwall, not being occupied. Since that period, various causes, and, among others, the decay of the city itself, have gradually reduced this fair to its present insignificancy."* *St. Mary Magdalen's Fair* is now the greatest, and a vast quantity of money is here annually circulated on a single day.

Various improvements in the general appearance of this city have been made since the year 1770, when the act for paving, cleansing, and repairing it, was passed. The buildings are chiefly disposed in parallel streets, branching off at right angles from the

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* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 200. We cannot conclude the description of this city, without acknowledging the very material assistance we have derived from that work; which, considered only in respect to its immediate relation to the History and Antiquities of Winchester, forms a very honorable monument of the talents and industry of its reverend author.



Engraved by Storer from a Drawing by Sheppard

...the Beauties of England and Wales

AVINGTON PARK,
Hampshire

High Street, which runs through the centre. The number of houses which compose the city and suburbs, omitting those of the parish of St. Maurice, is stated, in the returns under the Population Act, at 817; the number of inhabitants, including the inmates of the College, at 6171: if to these are added 2000 for the number of soldiers that are generally in the Barracks, or King's House, the total of the population will amount to 8171. For the recreation of the superior classes, a neat *Theatre* has been recently built: additional amusement is derived from the *Race-Ground*, which lies between three and four miles to the north of the city. A *County Hospital*, or *Infirmary*, was established at Winchester as early as the year 1736, and has been the means of relieving a great number of people. The present building consists of a centre, and two wings: the plan on which it is managed, is highly judicious and honorable.

About three miles north-east from Winchester, is AVINGTON, anciently *Abyngton*, a seat and manor of Earl Temple, eldest son of the Marquis of Buckingham, who obtained it by marriage with the Lady Anna Eliza Brydges, only daughter and heiress of James, last Duke of Chandos, on whose death, in 1789, that title became extinct. The manor was originally Royal demesne, and was given, by King Edgar, to the Monastery of St. Swithin, at Winchester, in the year 961; and continued in the possession of that house till the Dissolution, when it became the property of the Clerks of Micheldever, in this county; in whom it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, and then passed to the *Bruges*, or *Brydges*. This family, a branch of a very noble one of the same name on the Continent, was settled at Brugge Castle, in Shropshire, at the time of the Conquest. Sir Thomas Brugge married Alice, daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Berkeley, by Alice, his wife, daughter of Thomas, Lord Chandos, sister and heiress of Sir John Chandos, Lord Chandos, one of the original Knights of the Castle; and of whom our History speaks so highly for his conduct in the French wars, under Edward the Third. From this marriage arose the connection between the families of Bruges and Chandos; the united honors of which have descended, in an uninterrupted line, to the present time.

In the year 1554, Sir John Bruges, or Brydges, was created, by Queen Mary, Baron Chandos, of Sudeley Castle, in Glocestershire; and in 1714, the Honorable James Brydges, ninth Lord Chandos, was created Marquis and Earl of Caernarvon, and Duke of Chandos. James, his grandson, third and last Duke of Chandos,* acquired the house and property of Avington, on the death of Mrs. Brydges, relict of George Brydges, Esq. son of George Rodney Brydges, Esq. fourth son of Sir Thomas Brydges, in the county of Somerset, who married Anna Maria Brudenell, the infamous and notorious Countess of Shrewsbury, whose former husband, Francis, Earl of Shrewsbury, died in consequence of a wound he received in a duel with George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham,† during the fighting of which, the Countess is reported to have held the horse of her gallant, disguised as a page. During her residence at Avington, Charles the Second was frequently her guest; and hence Avington became the scene of the licentious pleasures of that profligate Monarch, at the time he was meditating to establish his Royal residence in the Palace at Winchester. Before the old house was dismantled, but a very short time before the unexpected death of the late Duke of Chandos, Nell Gwynn's Dressing-Room was still shown. The old Green-House was the Banquetting-Room in which Charles was entertained.

The present Mansion is mostly of brick; and though not yet completed, has been greatly improved since it came into the possession of Earl Temple; it having been previously dismantled, by the late Duke, for the purpose of adding two wings; but on the sudden

* By the maternal line, the Blood Royal of England flows in the veins of the descendants of this family; the mother of the late Duke of Chandos, and of Lady Caroline Leigh, relict of James Leigh, Esq. of Addlestrop, in Glocestershire, being the first wife of Henry, second Duke of Chandos, and one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Lord Bruce, afterwards Earl of Ailesbury, who descended through heiresses of the great houses of Grey, Duke of Suffolk, Seymour, and Saville, from Mary, Queen Dowager of France, and daughter of Henry the Seventh.

† See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 388.

sudden death of that nobleman, it was left entirely unfinished. It is situated in a well-planted and secluded valley, nearly environed with high downs, which, from their bare and open state, form a singular, though not unpleasing contrast with the scenery immediately contiguous to the Mansion. Several of the apartments are fitted up with great elegance, and are highly enriched by a choice collection of paintings, entirely of his Lordship's forming; and many of which have been purchased, by him, from the Orleans and Besborough collections. In the *Saloon* are the following:

A large picture, by Rembrandt; subject generally considered as unknown; but in a mezzotinto print, engraved from it by J. Ward, it is called "*The Centurion Cornelius*," from the tenth Chapter of the Acts. This painting is allowed to be one of the best ever executed by Rembrandt, who painted it for the ancestors of a Merchant's family in Amsterdam, from which it was purchased by an English collector, on the entry of the French into Holland during the last war. With the assistance of two young men, sons of the family, the collector embarked it on board a fishing-boat, and escaped with it in the night of the day on which the French troops entered the above city: he afterwards sold it to Earl Temple.

Tobias's Wedding Night; Le Socur: from Lord Besborough's collection.

Baptism of the Eunuch; Cuyp: a beautiful, rich, and highly-finished picture.

Head of Christ; Carlo Dolci; very fine.

Shipping and Buildings; Claude de Lorraine: this picture is better known by the appellation of the *Northington Claude*, it having belonged to that nobleman's collection.

Baptism of Christ; Albano: a beautiful picture, from the Orleans collection.

Exposure of Moses; Nich. Poussin: also from the Orleans collection. This is a very fine painting, and has been engraved.

Two small landscapes; Sal. Rosa.

A Storm and Shipwreck; Vernet.

Two landscapes; Ruysdael.

AIR; one of the set of elements painted by Luca Gordiano: from Lord Besborough's collection.

Head of a Sybil; Dominichino: very fine: from the Orleans collection.

Head of an Old Woman; Denner: extremely curious.

RAPHAEL; by himself: from Lord Besborough's collection.

Head of a Woman; Rubens: this was a favorite picture of Sir Joshua Reynolds, who always hung it up as a study, and at whose sale it was purchased by the late Sir William Hamilton.

In the *Dining-Room* is a Head of SIR JOHN BRUGES, first Lord Chandos; by Hans Holbein.

Venus and Mercury teaching Cupid to read; Corregio.

Our Saviour and the Virgin; Guido. These two pictures were given, by the Duke of Buckingham, to Lady Shrewsbury: the Corregio is particularly fine.

Our Saviour, the Virgin, and St. Joseph; Albert Durer.

Two Landscapes; Van Goyen.

View of Caernarvon Castle; Wilson.

A Landscape; Loutherbourg.

View of the Royal Naval Review, in 1775; Serres: presented, by his Majesty, to the late Duke of Chandos.

ERASMUS; Holbein.

The Angel departing from Tobit and his family; Rembrandt from the collection of Nathaniel Hone, Esq. This picture was brought into England by John Blackwood, Esq. a distinguished connoisseur and collector, and who was the first person that introduced the pictures of Murillio and Cuyp to English patronage.

In front of the house is a piece of water, that was formed from a transparent stream that flows through the valley, by the late Duke of Chandos. The Park, which is about three miles in circumference, was also made by him, and was not finished till the year 1785: it incloses, however, some fine old timber, and the ground is beautifully diversified.

About one mile west from Winchester, on the banks of the river Itchin, is the venerable and interesting HOSPITAL of ST. CROSS; an institution that has retained more of its original cha-

rather, than any other similar remnant of ancient piety and charity in this Island. "The lofty tower, with the grated door, and Porter's Lodge beneath it; the retired Ambulatory; the separate cells; the common Refectory; the venerable Church; the black flowing dress, and the silver cross, worn by the members; the conventual appellation of *brother*, with which they salute each other; in short, the silence, the order, and the neatness, that here reign, seem to recall the idea of a Monastery to those who have seen one, and will give no imperfect idea of such an establishment to those who have not had that advantage."*

"This, however, never was a Monastery, but only an Hospital for the support of ancient and infirm men, living together in a regular and devout manner." The original founder was the Bishop Henry de Blois, who instituted it, between the years 1132 and 1136, for the maintenance and residence of thirteen poor men; and the relief of 100 others, the most indigent that could be found in the city, but of good characters; each of whom was ordered to be provided daily with a loaf of bread, three quarts of small beer, and two messes for his dinner, in a hall appointed for the purpose, and called *Hundred-Mennes Hall*, from this circumstance. Here was also an endowment for a Master, a Steward, four Chaplains, thirteen Clerks, and seven Choristers.

Before the time of Bishop Wykeham, who was appointed to the See of Winchester in 1366, the revenues of this Hospital had been appropriated to purposes very different from the intentions of the founder; and that Prelate, being determined to reform the existing abuses, at length succeeded, after a tedious litigation, both in the spiritual and temporal courts. He then re-established it on a secure and well-ordered foundation; the propriety and good effects of which were so apparent, that his successor, Cardinal Beaufort, being determined to engage in some permanent charity, resolved rather to enlarge this institution, than to found a new one. He therefore endowed it for the additional support of two Priests, and thirty-five poor men, who were to become residents; and three

Hospital

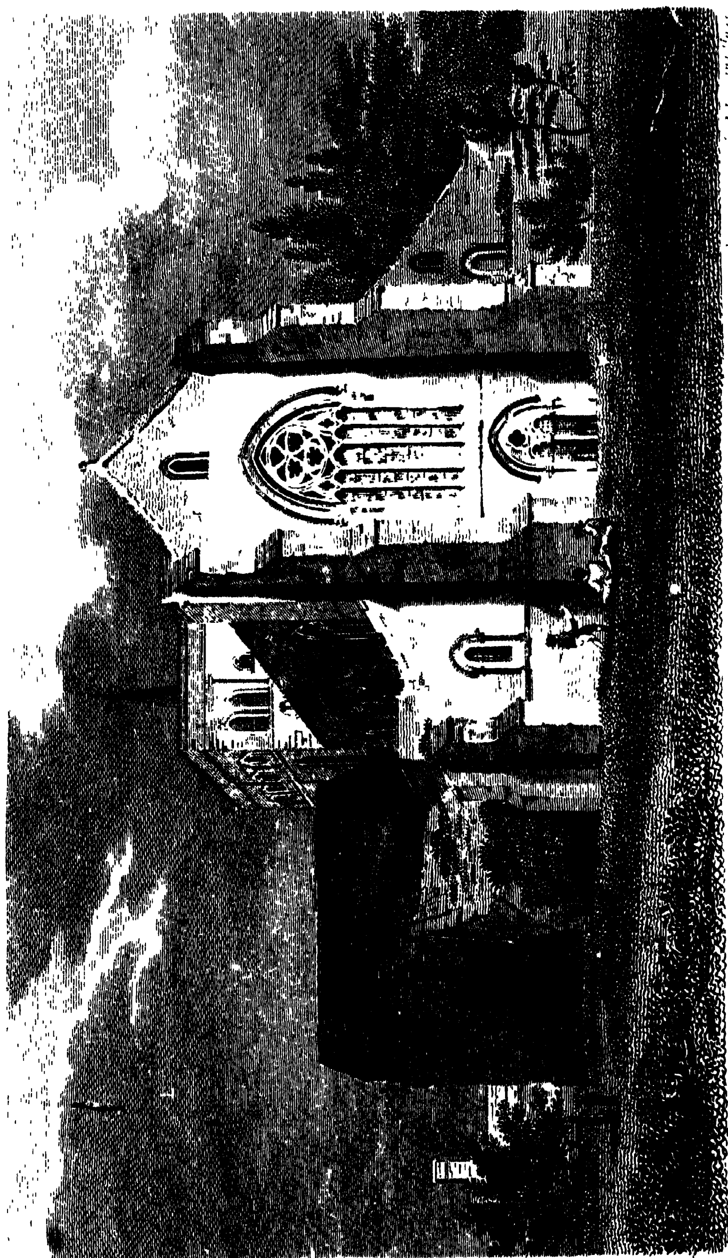
* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 141

Hospital Nuns, who were to attend upon the sick brethren; he also caused a considerable portion of the Hospital to be rebuilt.

"The present establishment of St. Cross is but the wreck of its two ancient institutions; it having been severely fleeced, though not quite destroyed, like so many other Hospitals, at the Reformation. Instead of seventy residents, as well clergy as laity, who were here entirely supported, besides 100 out-members, who daily received their meat and drink, the charity consists at present but of ten residing brethren, and three out-pensioners, exclusive of one Chaplain, and the Master. It is true, however, that certain doles of bread continue to be distributed to the poor of the neighbourhood; and what is, perhaps, the only vestige left in the kingdom, of the simplicity and hospitality of ancient times, the Porter is daily furnished with a certain quantity of good bread and beer, of which every traveller, or other person whosoever, that knocks at the Lodge, and calls for relief, is entitled to partake gratuitously."* Many of the Masters of this Hospital have been Prelates of considerable learning.

The buildings of this Hospital composed two courts; but the south side of the interior quadrangle has been lately pulled down. On the east side of the first court is the Hundred-Mennes-Hall, which is about forty feet long, and is now converted into a brew-house: on the west is a range of offices; and on the south, with portions of other buildings, the lofty and handsome tower gateway, erected by Cardinal Beaufort, whose statue, in his Cardinal's habit, is represented kneeling in an elegant niche in the upper part: two other niches, of the same form, but deprived of their statues, appear also on the same level. "In the cornice over the gates of this tower, we behold the Cardinal's hat displayed, together with the busts of his father, John of Gaunt; of his Royal nephews, Henry the Fourth, and Henry the Fifth; and of his predecessor, Wykeham: in the spandrils, on each side, are the founder's arms. The centre boss in the groining of the gateway, is carved into a curious cross, composed

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 144.



posed of leaves, and surrounded with a crown of thorns: on the left is the door of the Porter's Lodge."*

On entering the second court, the first object that attracts attention, is the ancient and interesting *Church of St. Cross*, which extends a considerable way into the court, and destroys its regularity on the east side. This edifice is built in the Cathedral form, with a nave and transept, and a low and massive tower rising from the intersection: the whole length of the Church is 150 feet; the length of the transept is 120 feet. The architecture of this structure is singularly curious, and particularly deserving the attention of the antiquary, as it appears to throw light on the progress, if not on the origin, of the Pointed, or English style. Mr. Milner considers the entire fabric as the work of Bishop de Blois, with the exception "of the front and upper story of the west end, which are of a later date, and seem to have been altered to their present form about the time of Wykeham. The vaulting of this part was evidently made by the second founder, Beaufort, whose arms, together with those of Wykeham, and of the Hospital, are seen on the centre orbs of it: that at the east end, by the Saxon ornaments with which it is charged, bespeaks the workmanship of the first founder, De Blois."†

The building before us, Mr. Milner further observes, "seems to be a collection of architectural essays, with respect to the disposition and form, both of the essential parts, and of the subordinate ornaments. Here we find the ponderous Saxon pillar, of the same dimensions in its circumference as in its length, which, however, supports an incipient pointed arch. The windows and arches are some of them short, with semicircular heads; and some of them immoderately long, and terminating like a lance: others are of the horse-shoe form, of which the entry into the north porch is the most curious specimen: in one place, (on the east side of the south transept,) we have a curious triangular arch. The capitals and bases of the columns alternately vary in their form, as well

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 146.

† History of Winchester, Vol. II. pages 149 and 152.

well as in their ornaments: the same circumstance is observable in the ribs of the arches, especially in the north and south aisles, some of them being plain, others profusely embellished, and in different styles, even within the same arch. Here we view almost every kind of Saxon and Norman ornament, the chevron, the billet, the hatched, the pellet, the fret, the indented, the nebulé, and the wavey, all superbly executed."*

The most attracting point of view, however, in which this structure is regarded by the above antiquary, is that of considering it as the first regular step towards the origin of the *Pointed*, or *English* style of architecture, which has so long, and so undeservedly, been calumniated under the barbarous appellation of Gothic. The specimens referred to by Mr. Milner in support of this hypothesis, both in his History of Winchester, and in his more elaborate illustration, inserted in the "Essays on Gothic Architecture," are indeed very happily chosen; and though they may not entirely warrant the supposition, that "the intersecting of two circular arches in the Church of St. Cross, produced Salisbury Steeple;" yet they clearly mark the gradation by which the Saxon and Norman styles of architecture were abandoned, for the more enriched and beautiful order that has conferred so much celebrity on the ecclesiastical architects of this country.

It has already been observed, that the west end, and the vaulting of the nave, are of later date than the other portions of this fabric; but the lower part is allowed to be the work of De Blois. This consists of massive Norman columns, with capitals and bases in the same style, supporting incipient pointed arches, but without ornament. In the south transept are two highly-pointed arches, ornamented with the zig-zag moulding, and rising from Norman pilasters, with varied capitals. The next variation appears in the chancel, where the walls are embellished with intersecting circular arches, with zig-zag and other mouldings, supported by Norman pilasters, richly ornamented. The intersections of these arches are pierced through the whole thickness of the wall, and constitute the

* History of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 149.

the windows, which are twenty in number, and are, of course, all pointed. This being the east end, is admitted to have been the first part of the Church that was finished, and in consequence its date can hardly be later than 1135.

The next gradation of style appears in the *Portal* of the west front, which is an elegant specimen of the time of King John, or early part of the reign of Henry the Third. "It consists of a double arch, with trefoil heads, and an open quatrefoil in the centre above them, forming altogether one elegant pointed arch, which rests upon four slender columns, with neat plain capitals and bases. The arched moulding that rests upon the inward pillars, consisting of the cup of a flower inverted, in open carved work, is an appropriate ornament of the pointed order, being different from every kind of Saxon moulding. We have here also, one of the first specimens of a canopy over a pointed arch, which afterwards became so important a member in this style of architecture: the present canopy is a plain weather moulding, of the same angle as the arch itself, and rests on two flowers, by way of corbels, instead of human heads; though an ornament of the latter kind is seen in the open space, just above the centre column. The great west window, above the portal, is divided by simple mullions into five principal lights; the wheel above, and other intermediate spaces, being filled with ornamental trefoils. This appears to be one of the earliest specimens of a great west window, before transoms. and ramified mullions, were introduced; and therefore the western end of the Church must have been altered, to receive this and the door beneath it, about the beginning of the thirteenth century, the eastern extremity of the Church being left, as it still continues, in its original state. There is a plain canopy, without any appearance of a pediment, over the arch of this window, like that over the portal: the chief improvement is, that it rests, in the present instance, on corbel heads, namely, those of a King, and a Bishop."* The west end is supported by strong buttresses.

* See Essays on Gothic Architecture, 2 Edit. 1802. p. 144—148, in which the descriptions are illustrated by engravings.

buttresses. The aisles on each side are much lower than the body of the nave; and in the north aisle is a cinquefoil arch, resting on short columns of Purbeck stone, over an altar tomb, which appears to have been erected about the middle of the thirteenth century: the canopy is ornamented with crockets and a finial.

Such is the architecture of this venerable pile; and such are the exemplars, from the contemplation of which Mr. Milner imagines the English style to have arisen. Several of the windows, it should be observed, as well as arches, in other parts of the Church than those mentioned above, are pointed; and that amidst others of the same date, that retain the circular form. The great west window is richly ornamented with painted glass, placed in it at the expense of the present master, Dr. [illegible], and consisting of ancient figures of Saints; and various arms, of modern execution. In the choir are sixteen *Stalls*, over which are curious sculptures of the most illustrious personages of Scripture History.* The most curious funeral memorials in this fabric, are an ancient *brass*, in memory of John de Campden, the friend of Wykeham, and master of this Hospital; and a modern mural monument for Wolfran Cornwall, Esq. a late Speaker of the House of Commons. In different parts of the pavement are numerous glazed tiles, with hatched and other ornaments: some of them are inscribed with the monosyllables HAVE MYNDE, *(Remember,)* in the black letter characters used in the fifteenth century.

The west wing of the remaining buildings of this Hospital consists of the apartments of the brethren, each of whom has three small chambers for his own use, together with a separate garden. The south side of the court, being out of repair, was pulled down some years ago. On the north side is Beaufort's Tower before mentioned; and adjoining to it, the Refectory, or common Hall, the roof of which is composed of Irish oak, and left open to the timbers. The Master's apartments, which are spacious and convenient, adjoin the Hall: in the windows of one of the galleries is

* These have been engraved by Mr. Carter, for his Specimens of Ancient Sculpture, together with the *Brass* in memory of John de Campden, &c.

is some curious painted glass. On the east side, extending from the north transept of the Church, is an open portico, 135 feet in length, anciently called the Ambulatory: above it is the ancient Infirmary, and some chambers called the Nuns' Rooms, from their having been allotted to the three hospital sisters on the foundation of Cardinal Beaufort.

ST. CATHERINE'S HILL, or *College Hill*, which is only separated from the meadows of St. Cross by the different branches of the river Itchin, has already been mentioned for the ancient entrenchment on its summit, and which, on good grounds, is supposed to have been formed by the Romans as a *Castrum Æstivum*.* On this eminence also, near the top, on the north-east side, is the form of a *Labyrinth* impressed on the turf by the continued coursings of the Students of Winchester College, who frequently thread its mazes in the full spirit of diversion and exercise.

The manor of TWYFORD, with the neighbouring village of Owslebury, belongs to Sir H. P. St. John Mildmay, Bart. whose principal seat is at Dogmersfield Park, in this county. The Mansion-House at Twyford, called *Shawford*, was built in the beginning of the last century, by Holiday Mildmay, Esq. son of Sir H. Mildmay, with the materials brought from the Convent at Marwell, which was pulled down for that purpose. Alderman Holiday, of the city of London, bequeathed by will, in 1656, the sum of 16,000l. to be laid out in land for the benefit of his daughter, (wife of Sir H. Mildmay,) and her heirs. With part of this sum, these estates were purchased, in the year 1660, from the Seymour family. This property being solely vested in the wife of Sir H. Mildmay, was exempt from the forfeiture of his other possessions. In the village of Twyford was a Catholic Seminary, where Mr. Pope was partly educated. In the *Church* at Twyford, is a fine mural monument, by Nollekins, to the memory of the late JONATHAN SHIPLEY, Bishop of St. Asaph, who died in the year 1788, in his seventy-fourth year, and an excellent bust of whom is here displayed.

 At

* See page 16.

At MERDON, or MERDEN, between three and four miles south-west from Winchester, was a CASTLE, or *Palace*, of the Bishops of that See, erected by Bishop de Blois, about the same time that he built the Castle at Wolvesey. This was strongly fortified; but appears to have become ruinous in the fourteenth century. Only a shapeless mass of ruin, supposed to have formed part of the Keep, now remains. The area in which it stands, was surrounded by an immense double entrenchment, of a circular form; parts of which have been levelled.

Merden is conjectured, by Mr. Milner, to be the place called *Merantune*, by the ancient chroniclers, where Kynewulph, King of the West Saxons, was murdered by Kyenard, brother to the tyrant Sigebert, whom he had succeeded on the throne. Kyenard, who had been driven into exile, is said to have privately returned, and to have continued lurking in the woods near Winchester, till an opportunity occurred of effecting the assassination, which he at length found on the King's visiting Merden, to indulge an unlawful amour, accompanied by a few Thanes, who were all slaughtered in bravely defending him.

Merden has yet further claims to attention, it having belonged to the Protector, Richard, son of Oliver Cromwell, in right of his wife, Dorothy, the eldest daughter of Richard Maijor, Esq. of HURSLEY, an extensive parish, included in this manor. In the old mansion, at Hursley Park, Richard resided during great part of the time that his father held the Protectorate, and hither also he retired for a short period previous to the Restoration, and to his voluntary exile on the Continent. He returned to England about 1680; and some years afterwards instituted a process against his daughters, who, having obtained possession of the Hursley estate, refused to deliver it up, but offered him a small annuity in lieu of his right. On this occasion he was obliged to appear in Westminster Hall, where the Lord Chief Justice Holt,* treated him

* See Granger's Biography. The memorable anecdote connected with this trial, must not be omitted. On leaving the court, Richard rambled into the House of Lords: when the House broke up, a stranger to

him with great respect, allowed him to appear covered, indulged him with a seat on account of his age, and made an order in his favor. After his death, his daughters sold the family estate to Sir William Heathcote, Bart. for 34 or 35,000l. Richard died at Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, in July, 1712, at the age of eighty-six: his remains were removed to Hursley Church for burial, and were interred in the chancel, near those of his wife, and of several of his children, and relations.

HURSLEY LODGE, the seat of Sir William Heathcote, Bart. one of the representatives for this county, and grandson to the above mentioned Sir William, is a substantial, spacious edifice, situated in a pleasant Park. When the estate was purchased by his grandfather, the ancient manor-house was entirely taken down, in consequence, as tradition reports, of a vow made by Sir William, who declared, that because it had belonged to the Cromwells, "he would not let one stone or brick remain upon another, even in the foundations."* In the Minutes of the Society of Antiquaries, a curious circumstance is recorded as having taken place during the pulling down of the old house. In one of the walls the dye of a seal was found, which being very rusty, was supposed to be a Roman weight, and was bought as such from the workman, who discovered it, by Sir William Heathcote. When cleaned, however, it proved to be the Seal of the Commonwealth of England, and was supposed, by the artist Vertue, who saw it in the year 1760, to be the identical Seal which Oliver took from the Parliament.† The Park is well stocked with deer, and the woods and shrubberies are extensive.

CRANBURY HOUSE, the present residence of Sir Nathaniel Holland, Bart. is an extensive mansion, commanding some good

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to his history, asked him if he had ever heard or seen any thing like it before? "Never," he replied, "since I sat in that chair;" pointing, at the same time, to the Throne.

* Noble's Memoirs of the House of Cromwell, Vol. I. p. 195.

† Ant. Soc. Min. Vol. IV.

views of the surrounding country, in which the river Itchin, the Southampton Water, and the Isle of Wight, are prominent and interesting features. The home scenery is very fine, and the grounds are enriched by plantations. On the death of Lady Holland, this seat, with all the estates of the late Mr. Dinevoir, will descend to William Chamberlayne, Esq.

About sixty years ago, a *Medal*, or circular plate, of mixed white metal, three inches and a half in diameter, and bearing the head and inscription of Julius Cæsar, was dug up near OTTERBURNE, by some laborers digging for sand, at the depth of twelve feet. Mr. Milner, who has had it engraved for his History of Winchester, describes it as similar to those that were fixed to the eagles, and other ensigns of the Romans; some of whom he supposes to have suffered a defeat near this spot, and to have been obliged to bury their ensigns, to prevent them falling into the hands of the Britons.*

STONEHAM PARK is the seat of the widow of the late John Fleming, Esq. who represented Southampton in Parliament for several years. The Mansion is an old building, seated rather low, but has been much improved and enlarged. The Park is extensive, and well wooded: it abounds with deer; and at the upper end has a pleasant Summer-house, from which the prospects are very fine: the grounds were laid out by Brown. Adjoining to the House is the *Church* of NORTH STONEHAM, a village about half a mile distant. Against the south wall is a superb monument to the memory of the late gallant Admiral Hawke, who was buried here; having, previously to his decease, inhabited the old Mansion, now the residence of W. Chamberlayne, Esq. between one and two miles to the south. The monument is fourteen feet high, and finely composed of white and variegated marble, bearing the family arms, with appropriate decorations, and a representation of the battle with Conflans in Quiberon Bay, anno 1759; from the original painting by Serres. Beneath is the following inscription:

D. O. M.

* History of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 15. Note.

D. O. M.
This Monument is sacred to the Memory of
EDWARD HAWKE,
Lord Hawke, Baron of Towton, in the County of York,
Knight of the Bath, Admiral and Commander of the
Fleet, Vice Admiral of Great Britain, &c.
Who died Oct. 17th, 1781, aged 72.

The bravery of his soul was equal to the dangers he encountered; the cautious intrepidity of his deliberations superior even to the conquests he obtained. The annals of his life compose a period of Naval glory, unparalleled in latter times; for whenever he sailed, Victory attended him. A Prince, unsolicited, conferred on him favors which he disdained to ask.

Admiral Hawke was created a Baron, by his present Majesty, in May, 1776. Another inscription records the death of Catherine, his Lady, who was the daughter of Walter Brooke, Esq. of Walton, in Yorkshire, and died in 1756. This monument was executed by Mr. J. Fr. More, sculptor, of London.

In this Church is also the burial-place of the *Flemyngs,* who have been interred here from the time of James the First. On the tomb of SIR THOMAS FLEMYNG, Knt. afterwards Lord Chief Justice of England, are the effigies of himself, and his Lady: the former died in 1613, in his sixty-ninth year, and is represented in his official robes; the latter in the courtly dress of the times. Judge Flemyng, as appears from the inscription, was held in 'especial grace and favor,' both by Queen Elizabeth, and James the First.

At WOOD-MILL, on the river Itchin, are the curious Works erected by Mr. Walter Taylor, for the manufacture of *Blocks, Pumps,* &c. for the service of the English navy. These articles are made on improved principles, and, by the aid of the ingenious machinery employed in their construction, are much cheaper, more certain in their operation, and more durable, than those formerly in use. The improvement in the method of forming the

blocks, was first suggested by the late Mr. W. Taylor,* father of the above, who, in the infancy of the invention, resided with his son at Southampton, and there erected a new Sawing Machine for cutting the *skivers* for the blocks of a uniform thickness. For the sake of privacy, the operations were carried on in a large damp cellar, by the light of candles; and though the machinery was here worked entirely by hand, the new blocks were rendered so perfect, that, after a full examination of the patterns, the Board of Ordnance (anno 1759) agreed, that all the gun-tackle blocks used in the navy, should be thenceforth manufactured by the Messrs. Taylors. Soon afterwards, on the suggestion of several naval gentlemen, who had experienced the utility of the gun-tackle blocks, they began to adapt their improvements to the blocks used in the rigging,

* The machine now used in the Dock-Yards for driving *Stern Bolts*, was also invented by this ingenious artisan, who, in the early part of his life, agreed with a Merchant of London, to go as carpenter in a large vessel, then building in the river for the Levant trade. "During the work, he often attended, taking notice of every thing: one day he observed the difficulty of driving the stern-bolt, which could not be driven up to its head by the joint efforts of all the workmen in the neighbourhood, who were called together for that purpose. at length, while the men were gone to dinner, an apprentice-boy took up a maul, and, with comparative ease, struck the bolt *home to its head.* When the men returned, and saw what had been done during their short absence, they complimented the Devil with the honor of the deed,' for no one but he could have done it. "This circumstance occasioned Mr. Taylor to consider the cause of the difficulty, and how it could be removed with so much apparent facility. He soon saw, that the boy had struck the bolt *in the centre of its head*, and thus drove it *straight forward;* while the workmen struck it *on one side* of the middle; and therefore, with all their efforts, could never have *got it home.* These observations, which, obvious as they may appear, had escaped the notice of the old workmen, led Mr. T. to invent a machine, with a slide running backward and forward in a groove, with a maul-head fixed at the end of it, so as to strike bolts *exactly in their centre*, and consequently to drive them in a *straight direction.* The formation of this slide was afterwards of the greatest service to him in the invention of his block machinery."

Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. p. 86.

rigging, and with so much success, that, on a report of the Navy-Board, the new method was patronised by Government, and ordered to be brought into general use.*

The extensive business resulting from this order, occasioned a removal of the works from Southampton to *Weston*, where the power of water was employed to increase and give celerity to the operations of the machinery, as *sawings, borings, turnings*, &c. and here the celebrated *Friction Wheels* were introduced in lieu of cogs; but the water being often deficient, Mr. Taylor finally removed to Wood Mill. The works here erected, are on a much

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* "The capital blocks of the Royal Navy were formerly of large dimensions, under the idea, that *the larger the diameter of the shiver, the easier the purchase*; the operation being considered as that of a lever, which is not the case. Captain Bentinck, convinced of this, and of the *strength* of Mr. Taylor's shivers and pins, ordered his own ship, the *Centaur*, then lying at Spithead, to be rigged with blocks and shivers of little more than *half the usual dimensions*, which proportionably reduced, first, the *price*, and secondly, the *weight*: the latter was found, by experiment, to be diminished twenty-six hundred weight, which was taken off from the masts only; at the same time, all the operations were performed with equal ease and expedition. These advantages being evidently so great, Mr. Taylor was urged, by Captain Bentinck, to endeavour to introduce a similar system throughout the whole navy; and on the former being ordered, by the Navy-Board, to replace the blocks burnt in the dreadful fire at Portsmouth Dock-Yard, in the year 1770, he took that opportunity to propose to the Board, to rig the ships in future after Captain Bentinck's plan. On an objection being started, that reducing the diameter would be lessening the purchase, at Mr. Taylor's request, experiments were immediately made in the Rigging-House. Shivers of the largest diameter were taken, and purchased against shivers half their diameter, and the smaller shivers were found to do the same duty as the larger with equal ease. Convinced of this fact, the Honorable Board immediately directed Mr. Taylor to draw up a regular table of the dimensions of blocks adapted to ships of every kind: this Mr. Taylor performed, with the assistance of Captain Bentinck, who was his intimate and kind friend, and the navy has been rigged ever since on this system."

Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. p. 92.

more extensive scale than those at Weston; and the machinery itself has been materially improved, particularly by the invention of *circular saws*, by which the manufacture of the blocks has been greatly expedited, and their use rendered more effectual.* Various and essential improvements have also been made by Mr. Taylor, in the construction both of the Hand and Chain Pumps, used in the navy; and by one of his later contrivances, it is asserted, that a ship may be cleared of four tons of water in two minutes and a half. The new pumps are also less liable to injury, and more easily repaired, than those formerly in use.

Below Wood Mill, but on the opposite side of the river, are the ruins of the PRIORY of ST. DYONISIUS, vulgarly called *St. Dennis's Priory*. This was founded, for Black Canons, by Henry the First; though Richard the First has been sometimes considered as the founder, from the considerable benefactions which he bestowed, Other donations were made by different Sovereigns; among whom was Edward the Third, who granted the canons a pipe of red wine for the celebration of mass, to be delivered to them at Southampton, by the King's butler. On the Dissolution of this Priory, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, the annual value of its possessions was estimated at 80l. 11s. 6d. according to Dugdale; and 91l. 9s. according to Speed. The site was then granted to Francis Dawtry; it is now the property of General Stibbert, of Portswood House. The ruins are only of small extent; and appear chiefly to have formed the west end of the Priory Church. The spot occupied by the monastic buildings is now the site of a farm-house. Some of the possessions of this house were held by the tenure of arming a certain number of men for the defence of Southampton.

PORTSWOOD HOUSE, the seat of Giles Stibbert, Esq. formerly a General in the service of the East India Company, is a handsome building, situated on an eminence, commanding a fine view over the river Itchin, and the Southampton Water, which, when the tide is up, forms a wide lake in front of the mansion. The

* The elder Mr. Taylor died about this period, (1762,) his health having been greatly impaired by confinement in the above-mentioned cellar during the progress of these improvements.



Engraved by R. Sands from a drawing by J. Wasell. *For the Beauties of England & Wales*

ST DENYS'S PRIORY,
Hampshire

The surrounding scenery comprises a great variety of country, embellished with hanging woods, and gently rising hills. The pleasure grounds are laid out with much judgment, and are beautifully diversified: the shrubberies are extensive. The house was erected, from the designs of Mr. Crunden, about thirty years ago; but has since been considerably improved, and an elegant portico added, by Mr. J. Taylor of Southampton. The interior is commodious, and is fitted up and ornamented in a style of chaste simplicity. Some very fine paintings are distributed through the different apartments; the following are some of the principal.

A Landscape with Figures, and its companion, a Sea Piece; Teniers.

Two Landscapes; Hobbima.

CHARLES THE SECOND, in armour; Vandyck.

SIR ROBERT CECIL; Cornelius Jansen.

A Madonna, very fine; Carlo Dolci.

CHARLES THE SECOND, represented as St. George conquering the dragon; Rubens.

A Storm at Sea, and its companion, a Town on Fire by Moonlight; Vernet.

Hope, and Faith, two heads; Guido.

Alexander and his Physician, and its companion, Cæsar and his Friends; West.

A Landscape with Figures; Claude de Lorraine.

Two Landscapes, with Figures; Gainsborough.

A Landscape; Poussin.

BEVIS MOUNT, or PADWELL, the seat of Edward Horne, Esq. derives its former appellation from the celebrated *Sir Bevois*, the hero of Southampton, whose real history, like that of St. George, is involved in all the legendary envelopement of remote ages. The Mount was originally a vast pile of earth, rising in a conical form, from a foundation of great extent; and is traditionally said to have been thrown up by Sir Bevois, to obstruct the Danes in their endeavors to cross the Itchin. At high water, the tide forms a bay at the foot of this eminence; and the beauty of the prospect is then so much increased, that a former possessor

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of this estate, Charles Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough, would never suffer his grounds to be inspected by strangers, unless the river was at its height. This nobleman, who is praised by Walpole for his enterprising spirit, and disinterested politics, was the friend of Pope, Swift, and Arbuthnot, and the warm patron of men of genius and literature. Under his direction, the grounds at Bevis Mount were disposed into a kind of wilderness, and here his Lordship frequently resided. This has also been the residence of the Poet *Sothcby*, the translator of Wieland's Oberon, whose taste, and classic elegance of phrase, shines particularly conspicuous in his various poems. His delicacy of sentiment, and true conjugal affection, are not less happily displayed by his sonnet intituled,

FAREWELL TO BEVIS MOUNT.

Mary! ere yet with lingering step we leave
These bowers, the haunt of peace, where many a year
Has o'er us past delightful,—if a tear
Strays down my cheek, not for myself I grieve:
Here thou hadst fondly hoped till life's last eve
To rest. On yonder bank the flowers appear
Nursed by thy culture; there thy woodbines rear
Their tendrils:—Thou, ah! thou unseen mayst heave
A sigh, what time we bid these groves farewell;
Yet in thy breast resides a soothing power
That sheds the sweet not found in herb or flower:—
Oh, Mary! what to us where doom'd to dwell?
Enough that peace and thou canst never part;
Belov'd of me the spot where'er thou art.

Opposite Bevis Mount, on the western side of the Itchin, is BITTERN-FARM, a kind of circular peninsula, formed by the winding of the river, and the undoubted site of the Roman CLAUSENTUM. Leland, and some other antiquaries, have fixed this station in the immediate suburbs of the present Southampton; but neither coins, nor other remains, have ever been discovered there to support the opinion; whilst at Bittern, which is not more than a mile and a half northward from that town, they have been found in abundance. Here, observes Mr. Warner, who was the

first to vindicate the claims of Bittern by the strong evidence of facts,* "we can plainly trace the vestiges of Roman labor: a fosse, which divides the point whereon the *Castellum* stood from the main land, and part of a vallum, which, in its original state, before it was depressed by time and weather, must have been of great magnitude, appear to me to have been formed by that people. Fragments of Roman bricks are still visible among the rubbish of a decayed wall on the eastern side; and a long series of Roman coins has, at different times, been dug up at Bittern, among which appear those of Claudius, Nero, Vespasian, Sabinus, Antoninus, Commodus, Lucilla, Alexander Severus, Constantius Constans, Carausius, Aurelianus, Valentinianus, and Valens." The origin of the name of this station, Mr. Warner deduces from *Clausus*, shut up; and *intus*, within; terms explanatory of its situation with respect to the river; and which, by familiar use, would be contracted into *Claus-int*, or *Claus-ent*: to this the common Latin termination "*um*" being added, the name *Clausentum* is formed.

Additional proof of this having been a Roman station, was a few years ago obtained during the progress of building the new bridge at Northam, and of making the new road from Southampton to Botley, which has been carried directly across the area of Bittern-Farm. Numerous coins were then found, together with various urns, fragments of pottery, and other antiquities, of which some interesting particulars were communicated to the conductor of the Hampshire Repository, by Sir H. C. Englefield, and published in the second volume of that work, accompanied by illustrative plates; the following is an extract.

"The Roman wall itself is singular in its construction: its height cannot be ascertained: its thickness is about nine feet, and its materials flint, faced very roughly with small square stones, and a bending course of large flat bricks, running through its interior part;

* See "An Attempt to ascertain the Situation of the ancient Clausentum, by the Rev. Richard Warner," 4to. 1792. Mr. Gough, however, had previously supposed the Roman station to have been at Bittern; and even Camden himself appears to have conceived the same idea, but hesitated in his decision.

part; it is extraordinary that it has no foundation whatever, but is literally set down on the surface of the ground, and is therefore undermined by the waters of the Itchin, which reach it at spring tides. A large bank of earth has been thrown up against it on the inner side; and it appears as if, at a distance of about nine feet within the outer wall, another wall, about two feet thick, had been erected, seemingly as a sort of strengthening to the rampart of earth. Within the area of the ancient wall, the remains of two very coarse pavements, or rather plaister-floors, are visible; one in the bank to the left of the new road, which has been in part washed away by the Itchin; the other in the ditch to the right of the road, about midway between the two roads. It seems not unworthy of remark, that the whole soil, as well within the wall, as between the wall and the outer ditch, is full, not only of fragments of bricks and tiles of various forms, but of small pieces of that beautiful earthen-ware, the color, polish, and grain of which, when broken, resemble fine sealing-wax, more than any other substance I know of. The ditches dug through these fields for the new road, have afforded me nearly a hundred pieces of this ware; some of them plain, some embossed with animals, masks, thyrsi, lyres, ears of corn, and poppies. An ornament at the top of the embossed part, like a deep festooned fringe, with tassels between each festoon, is almost universal in them. Fragments of vases, of a coarse earth, not finer than our garden pots, are pretty common; and some of these appear to have been of very considerable size. The largest were red; some others were of a dirty brown, like unbaked clay: those in which ashes and coins were found, were of the latter sort. One of these, when found, presented a most singular appearance, as it was inclosed within another which nearly fitted it, and whose mouth was so narrow as by no means to have admitted it in its hardened state; the fragments of both these vessels bear evident marks of the potter's lathe, both within and without. A fine and perfect *glass* urn was also found, but it has been unfortunately destroyed."

Among the other remains discovered here, are fragments of sculptured and other stones, which seem to have formed parts of

a Roman

a Roman building. The old farm-house, also, which stands within the area of this station, and is now converting into a residence for Henry Hanson Simpson, Esq. furnishes a memorial of the Roman occupation of this spot, in a rude stone, inscribed as follows.

IMP. CÆS. LV
CIO DOMI
TIO AVRELIANO.

The farm-house appears to have been partly formed from a castellated mansion of the Bishops of Winchester, the ruins of which are noticed by Leland; and an old stone building, lately used as a barn, was probably in some manner connected with it, as the upper part of the wall, next the fosse, has loop-holes for the discharge of arrows. The area of the Station is about half a mile in circumference: some have supposed that it was connected with NORTHAM, a hamlet on the opposite bank of the river, where Roman coins are reported to have been found.

SOUTHAMPTON,

OR SOUTHTON, though not of Roman origin, is still of considerable antiquity, and very probably may date its rise from the decay of the station at Bittern; though at what particular era it became a town, is not to be distinctly ascertained. Its name has been the subject of some argument; but the most natural conclusion is, that it was derived from the river Ant, or *Anton*, which, after flowing from the upper parts of the county, and giving appellations to several places in its course, here widens into a considerable estuary, and, in conjunction with the station, forms the head of the Southampton Water; the supposed *Antona* of Tacitus. Those who controvert this etymology, deduce its name from the Saxon word *Ham*, a home, or residence, " which so frequently enters into the composition of the names of our towns, sometimes with, and sometimes without, the adjunct, *Ton*." The manner, however, in which the name is spelt in the Domesday Book, and other ancient records, is clearly in favor of the former opinion, as

in these writings it is spelt *Hantun*, and *Hantune:* the prefix of *South* most evidently arose from its relative situation to *Northam*. The county itself was also called *Hantunscyre;* though its name has been long corrupted, and, equally with Southampton, now suggests an erroneous inference in respect to its origin.

The earliest mention of this town occurs in the Saxon Chronicle, from which it appears, that it was attacked by the Danes, in the year 873, who landed from thirty-three vessels; but, after committing many atrocities, were repulsed, and driven to their ships. About 980, a body of Danes again landed here, and ravaged the town and its neighbourhood; and scarcely twelve years afterwards, they are recorded to have a third time plundered Southampton, under the command of Sueno of Denmark, and Olaus of Norway.

Whether the town was fortified previously to these devastations, does not appear with certainty; though an eminent antiquary, Sir H. C. Englefield, Bart. in a late publication, suggests the opinion that a *Castle* was built here by the Saxons, very soon after they had achieved a permanent establishment in this country. "The peculiar advantages of the narrow, and rather high point of land on which Southampton now stands," observes this gentleman, "commanding at once the Itchin and Test rivers, and very easily fortified on the land side, could not escape their notice; and, from the high circular hill, on which the keep of the Castle formerly stood, and the curved line of its yet remaining wall, we have probable grounds for supposing it to be among the most ancient of the Saxon Castles. But, besides the present existing fortifications, there is great reason to supect, that the northern ditch of the town, filled up within the memory of man, and of uncommon breadth and depth, was continued quite across, till it met the Itchin, and completely insulated the Castle and present town. The antiquity of the Bar-Gate, whose central round arch is evidently much older than any of the other gates of the town, is no small confirmation of this supposition; as the walls and gates, with the exception of the Bar-Gate, appear to have been built at once, and are very uniform in their structure, some small parts only excepted. It is, however, immaterial to the view of the progressive

sive augmentation of the present town, whether this conjecture, relative to the Bar-Gate, and its ditch, be well founded, or not; as it is equally certain, under either supposition, that the Castle would very soon form a town around itself; both by the habitations of those dependant on it as a fortress, and those who sought protection under its wings, from the multiplied dangers of that period of unceasing war and pillage. The very ancient Church of St. Michael was probably founded soon after the Castle, and was, as it now is, the manerial Church of the town: and it is worthy of remark, that the streets immediately under the Castle, are proved, by their names, to have been the original markets of the infant town; and that all the most curious remains of antiquity stretch along the shore of the Southampton Water, where the Castle protected them on the land side, and the sea rendered attack not very easy on any other."*

The

* Walk through Southampton, p. 84, 80. From the very minute account in the same work, of the Walls and Gates of Southampton, the ensuing particulars are selected. The principal entrance to the town on the land side, is by the "large and extremely beautiful Gate, called emphatically, the *Bar*.* Its north front is of rather uncommon form, being a sort of semi-octagon, flanked with two lower semicircular turrets, and crowned with large and handsome machicollations. The arch of entrance is highly pointed, and adorned with a profusion of mouldings, which now end abruptly, a part of the flanks of the arch having been cut away to enlarge the carriage-way, which was inconveniently narrow. Above the arch is a row of elegant sunk pannels, alternately square and oblong. In each of the squares is a shield in relief, painted, with a coat of arms. These ornaments were added to the gate after the accession of James the First.

" The footways on each side are modern perforations through the old flanking towers, as the brick-work entirely covers the ancient walls; but, by inspecting the sides of the principal arch, it seems as if there had formerly been arches opening laterally into these. towers. The arches and

* This, it may be observed, was anciently the name of those edifices now called gates, while the word *gate* signified the street or road leading to the bar; a phraseology which still obtains in the north of England.

The different assaults made on this town by the Danes, render it probable, that it had obtained some importance very early, and most

and front hitherto described, though probably 450 years old, are modern, when compared with the central part of the Gate, which is of early Norman work, if not more ancient than the Conquest. Its plain and massive round arches, which are considerably wider than the outer pointed one, are a full proof of this. Within this most ancient part, another addition has been made to the town, forming a plain and flat front; which, though never very handsome, was much injured by an awkward attempt to adorn it, at the beginning of the last century. The points of its ancient windows are obliterated; a painted rustic covers the old wall; and Queen Anne, in long embroidered stays, and a gown, whose folds would disgrace even the barbarity of Saxon sculpture, exhibits her jolly fat face from a Gothic niche in the centre. The battlements have however escaped the ravages of improvement; and an ancient alarm bell hangs in a niche formed for it, between two of them. The leads are spacious; and from these the gradual increase of this noble Gate is easily traced. The original Gate was flanked by two semicircular towers, towards the country; between these, and projecting beyond them, the present beautiful exterior front was added; the front towards the town appears the most modern of all. The two lions sejant, cast in lead, which now form a respectable guard at the entrance of the Gate, were formerly placed at the extremities of the parapet of a bridge which crossed the ditch before the Gate, and were removed to their present situation, when the ditch was filled up, and the bridge demolished.

From the Bar-Gate, "the Wall runs eastward about 200 yards, and is still visible, though encumbered with dwelling houses; among which, two semicircular towers are barely discernible. It terminates in this direction by a high round tower, which has a more modern appearance than any other part of the walls, and seems to have been built with embrazures, like Calshot Castle, for the reception of cannon. From this tower the wall runs quite straight, in a direction nearly south, till it reaches the water: at the distance of about 100 yards from the north-east angle, East-Gate formerly stood: this was demolished above thirty years ago; but a drawing of it is among Grose's Antiquities, and it appears to have been equally ugly and inconvenient. The whole length on this side is about 800 yards, and it is defended by a broad

most likely from its commerce, for which its situation was very favorable. The accession of Canute to the British sceptre, put a

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a broad and deep ditch, in the bottom of which the new canal is dug, and fortified by eight turrets; six of them of a semicircular form, and two square ones, which, however, appear more modern than the others. These two were probably built about the time of Edward the Sixth; as that young Monarch, in the very curious account he gives his friend Fitz-Patric, of his summer excursion into this county,* says, that 'the townsmen had spent much money in repairing their walls for his reception.' The upper part of the north-eastern tower was probably built at the same time. The structure both of the wall and towers, is of coarse and irregular masonry: where the wall reaches the sea, it is terminated by a strong *Tower*, with a gate. The arch of entrance is pointed, and has within it two others, of different forms and heights, and two grooves for portcullisses: over this gate is the Bridewell. It seems evident, that originally the ditch was dug so deep, as to admit the sea, at high-water, quite up to the north-eastern angle of the wall, before mentioned; and the projecting tower and building, which we shall next survey, was very likely added to defend the sluices, on which so essential a requisite to the defence of the town depended. This mass of building is evidently less ancient than the walls, and probably of about the same date as the outer part of the Bar-Gate. Its irregular form, and projecting buttresses, render it a picturesque object.

"From the Tower and Gate just mentioned, the wall runs in a direction nearly west, for about 120 yards, having the sea washing its foot, till it meets the Great, or East Quay. In this length it is defended by one large and high turret, at which it makes a little bend to the northward. An ancient Gate, with a low pointed arch, with a groove for a portcullis, and machicollations over it, opens on this Quay; which projects into the river about 150 yards, and is evidently as ancient, at least in part, as the town itself. This *Water-Gate* has been so defaced by houses built against it on every side, that it is not easy to make out its original form; and in its present mutilated state, no one, but a staunch antiquary, could much lament its total removal, which is seriously talked of, and which would essentially conduce to the convenience of

* Letters of Edward the Sixth to Barnaby Fitz-Patric, printed by Mr. Walpole, at Strawberry-Hill.

period to the Danish ravages in this Island, and Southampton appears to have become an occasional residence of that Sovereign: and

of the commerce carried on upon the Quay.* Just beyond the northern tower of this gate, two machicollations appear on the wall, which, perhaps, defended another gate, or postern, opening on the Quay; but the lower part of the wall is here so completely blocked up by houses, that this point cannot be ascertained.

"From the Water-Gate, the wall continues in a curved line to the north-west, with its foot in the sea. Its construction is here similar to the part already described; and the towers which defend it, are much of the same form, though only partially visible from the sea, as wharfs and timber-yards are now built out into the water in front of them. At about 200 yards from the Water-Gate, the wall makes a more sudden bend to the northward, and has the appearance of having slipped outwards from the foot into the sea. At the north end of this part, a high open arch appears in the wall; and beyond that arch, it continues quite plain, and very high, till it reaches the *West-Gate.* This gate is a low, plain, pointed vault, very strongly and carefully defended; there being in its thickness at least two grooves for portcullisses, and six square apertures for pouring hot water, or other annoyances, on assailants. The tower over this gate is modernized. The length of the wall, from the Water-Gate to the West-Gate, is about 380 yards.

"To the north of the West-Gate, and fronting the area occupying the Public Baths, and Rooms, the wall is of great height, and exhibits a mode of building quite peculiar, and which seems singularly ill contrived for strength and defence. The wall may here be said to be double: the interior wall has been the front of a row of very ancient buildings; a part of which has been ornamented with Saxon double windows above, and doors of different forms below. These apertures have all been filled up, and against the front a row of high and slender piers is built, which partly cover the ancient apertures of the wall behind them. These piers are two feet two inches, in breadth, and project three feet, and three inches, from the wall; and they have a base projecting four inches

* The Water-Gate has since been actually taken down, and that, in the course of the last year (1804,) together with an ancient building attached to it on the east; by which means a view of the New Forest has been opened to a considerable part of the High-Street.

and here he is recorded, by Henry of Huntingdon, to have repressed the impious flattery of his courtiers, by a most impressive

 lesson.

inches and a half every way, which is about eighteen inches high above the present level of the ground. At ten feet six inches above the basement, arches are turned from pier to pier, (leaving, however, an open space of one foot, eight inches, on an average, between the old wall and the new,) which are connected by stones at intervals, leaving interstices in the nature of machicollations, open to the sky. At a considerable height above the arches, the wall terminates in a parapet, with one battlement in the extent of each arch. The whole range of arches is in number nineteen; but they are not uniform either in size or figure. In the fourth arcade is a very curious small Postern, which has been defended by a portcullis, and opens into a narrow steep alley, called Blue Anchor-Lane. The wall beyond the arches, appears much older; and in it is a low Gate, with a pointed arch, called *Bridle-Gate*, over which are the brackets of two machicollations. The wall at this gate is five feet three inches in thickness. The length of the wall, from the West-Gate to the Bridle-Gate, is about 150 yards.

"From the Bridle-Gate the wall makes a sudden projection at right angles, to its former line, of about sixteen yards; and then, being at its extreme angle fortified by a square tower, turns back at an obtuse angle: another square tower defends this face, which forms a large irregular projecting mass, beyond the general line of the wall; which then continues in a direction nearly due north, and is fortified by six very strong and handsome buttresses. The third of these buttresses is much larger than the rest, and has in it a door-case, high above the foot of the wall, and which probably was a water-gate to the Castle. In the intervals of the buttresses are traces of several loops, and small windows, which lighted a large vault: this part of the wall is beautifully mantled with ivy. The wall then runs northward, in a straight and flat face, and has one buttress more, at some distance from the rest, of most exquisite masonry. Just beyond this buttress is a large angular one, which, by flying arches to the wall on each side, supported a small tower. Here the wall goes off at an obtuse angle to the northeast, and has three very strong buttresses in this face: at this spot, the wall of the Castle abuts on the town wall. This point is 200 yards from Bridle-Gate.

"Hence

lesson. They had hailed him as the Lord of Nature; when descending to the beach, he ordered a chair to be brought, and having

"Hence the wall continues of very good masonry, straight to the north-west corner of the tower, and is defended by a very handsome semicircular turret, with a projecting parapet, supported by large corbels. The height of the wall, from its foot, is here twenty-eight feet; and of the turret, forty feet. The tide washes the whole of this wall quite to the north-west corner, which is 100 yards from the point above mentioned: the ground within is almost level with its top the whole way, so that it forms a most beautiful terrace to the gardens which belong to the houses of the High-Street, and Castle-Square, and run quite to the wall, commanding an enchanting view of the Bay from the town to the village of Milbrook, and the river beyond it quite to Redbridge. The north-west angle of the wall is fortified by a very elegant angular buttress, with a projecting parapet, supported by corbels, forming a sort of small watch-tower; and very near it, to the eastward, is a high and strong circular tower. From this place the wall runs due east to the *Bar*, and is about 170 yards in length; one semicircular tower defends it. The total circuit of the walls is 2200 yards, or one mile and a quarter." *Walk, &c. p.* 13—31.

"With respect to the date of the building of the wall, as we now see it," observes the worthy Baronet, in another part of his publication, "difficulties arise in my mind. It is certain, that the northern, eastern, and that part of the southern wall, west of the Water-Gate, bear every mark of uniform regularity in their structure; and the gates of the town are apparently of the same date with the walls, and much resemble each other in the massy flat form of their pointed arches, which rise at an angle from their piers, being struck from centres below the level of their spring; a mode of construction used about the time of Edward the Second; yet the remains of semicircular towers, still visible on attentive inspection of the Bar-Gate, and which flanked its round arch, very much resembling, in form and mode of building, the towers of the north and east walls, lead me to suspect, that the wall, on the land side at least, is of higher antiquity than the time of the Edwards, and that the present gates were built later than the erection of the wall. The very singular position of the Water-Gate, which retires thirty feet behind the line of the eastern part of the south wall, and the odd position of the South-Gate, at the very angle of the wall, seem to indicate, that

having seated himself, said to the flowing tide, "Thou art under my dominion, and the ground on which I sit is mine, nor can any disobey me with impunity: I command thee, therefore, neither to approach the feet, nor to wet the robes, of thy Royal Master!" But the rude waves, continues the historian, presently dashed over him, when, springing back, he exclaimed, "Let all the inhabitants of the world know, that the power of Sovereigns is weak and frivolous; and that none deserves the name of King, but Him whose will, by an eternal decree, the heavens, the earth, and the sea, obey." From that period, Canute would never wear his crown, but caused it to be placed on the great crucifix at Winchester: and it is worthy of remark, that the coins of this Monarch bear evidence of the fact, as they either represent him as wearing a mitre, or a cap, or triangular covering, similar to that on the coins of St. Edward.

In the Domesday Book, Southampton, or *Hantune*, as it is there called, is styled a *Burgh*, "in which the King has seventy-nine men in demesne, who pay a land-tax of seven pounds, and also paid the same sum in the time of Edward the Confessor; by whom the land which they held in the borough itself, was made free of taxes." By the same record, it appears, that sixty-five Frenchmen,

that these gates were not of the original design. From the south-west angle of the wall, quite to the Bridle-Gate, which was close to the ballium of the Castle, the whole wall is a mass of irregular and almost inexplicable construction. I cannot help suspecting, that this side of the town, protected, as it was, by the Castle, and covered by the sea, was not at all, or but very slightly, fortified, until the fatal experience of the sack of the town by the French invaders, had proved that some further defence was necessary. The line of wall south of the West-Gate is irregular in its construction; and the wall between West and Bridle-Gates, which has been already described, bears evident marks of having been built in the most hasty manner, and with the greatest economy of materials. This wall, in its present form, I conceive to have been built about that period, when the old historians state Richard the Second to have fortified the town, and built the Castle; which he probably repaired and strengthened, but which evidently had been built several centuries before his time."

and thirty-one Englishmen, were provided with houses in *Hantune*, after the Conqueror was established on the Throne, and that forty-eight other houses, in the possession of various persons, whose names are mentioned, were exempted from tax by grant from the King. The Abbess of Warwell had also a fishery here, and a small plot of ground, which paid ten shillings.

These particulars evidently prove, that this town had attained considerable importance before the Norman Invasion, though it appears to have suffered greatly from the ravages of Earl Tostan. Henry the First is supposed to have made it a borough by charter, as the "Burgesses of Southampton" are mentioned in his grants to the Canons of the Priory of St. Dionysius, which he had founded. In a new charter, bestowed by Henry the Second, the Burgesses are confirmed in their "Gild, Liberties, and Customs," by *sea* and land. The liberties and customs by sea, plainly indicate, some commercial privileges and exemptions which they must have enjoyed, and consequently evince, that the commerce of the town was then worthy of notice.

Many additional privileges were granted to the Burgesses by King John, who exempted them from toll, passage, and pontage, by sea and land, in fairs, and in markets, throughout all his dominions, as well on this side the sea as beyond by the same charter, he granted them the Port of Portsmouth, in ferm, for which, together with the ferm of Southampton, they were to pay 200l. yearly. The agreement to pay this sum, sufficiently indicates the opulence and flourishing state of the town at that period, which appears to have arisen principally from the *Wine* trade; and as early as 1215, the merchants of Southampton are recorded to have imported more wine than any other merchants in England, those of London excepted. In those days, white or sweet wines were mostly in use, and these were chiefly imported from Genoa and Venice, by aliens, who were restricted to this Port by a duty payable to Southampton, if the wine was landed elsewhere.* The former extent of this trade may be inferred from the numerous large

* Statutes at Large, &c

large vaults beneath the houses near the Quay, in the High-Street, and in various other parts of the town.

In the reign of Henry the Third, the Barons of the Cinque Ports became very troublesome to the Merchants of Southampton, by frequently attaching their persons, and seizing their goods, under pretended reference to ancient grants. These grievances, however, being stated to the King, he issued a writ, dated the fourteenth of May, 1252, commanding the Barons to desist from their outrages: four years afterwards, he invested the Burgesses with new privileges, by a very ample charter, dated at Bristol, July the fourteenth, 1256. In the time of Edward the First, considerable trade was carried on between this Port and France; and the War which commenced towards the conclusion of the century, between that country and England, was in a great measure owing to the detention at St. Vallery and Barfleur, of some ships belonging to Southampton.

At the accession of Edward the Third, the trade of this town was very flourishing, and continued so till the commencement of the rupture with France, in 1338, on account of the refusal of the states of that kingdom to acknowledge the claims of Edward to its Throne. The same year the Mayor and Bailiff were commanded, by writ, to cause all their ships, of forty tons burthen, and upwards, to be victualled and furnished with men at arms, ready to defend the land, in case of invasion. These preparations, however, were made too late; the French, with their allies, the Spaniards and Genoese, landed in October, from a fleet of fifty gallies, and having slain all who opposed them, they entered and plundered the town, and afterwards destroyed the greatest part of it by fire: many of the principal inhabitants were at the same time inhumanly put to death. This fatal event interrupted the growing prosperity of Southampton, as many of the Merchants were totally ruined, and others afterwards removed to places less exposed to invasion. In the following year, an act was passed for re-building and strongly fortifying the town; and the King, in a new charter, confirmed all the grants made by his predecessors, and invested the inhabitants with additional immunities. In the same reign, it

was also enacted, (anno 1353, or 1354,) that all the wool, leather, woolfells, and lead, should be brought from the Staple-Houses at Winchester to this Port. Soon after the accession of Richard the Second, another attack was made on this town by the French, who appear to have been desirous of effecting its destruction; this time, however, they proved unsuccessful. The attempt appears to have led to the further strengthening of the town, as Richard is said to have erected a *Castle* for its defence; but that fortress was built long before, even so early as 1153. It was most probably repaired and enlarged by this Sovereign, at the same time that additions were made to the walls, and other fortifications constructed.* In this reign, a plan was proposed, by a rich Genoese merchant, for rendering Southampton one of the principal ports in Europe; but the jealousy of some London merchants is said to have defeated the design, and to have occasioned the death of the projector by assassination The commercial immunities of Southampton were in this reign increased by a new charter; but, from the late pillage, and destruction of the town, and the alterations in the general system of traffic, these encouragements were inadequate to effect the restoration of its ancient trade. Henry the Fourth,

* Till lately, it has been a popular opinion, founded, indeed, on the authorities of Leland and Camden, that the ancient site of Southampton was round St. Mary's, in the suburbs; and that the burning of the town, by the French, in the time of Edward the Third, occasioned it to be re-built in its present situation. That this opinion was erroneous, is, however, incontestible, not only from the situation of the Churches, the Domus Dei, and other ancient buildings, but also from the age of the central part of the Bar-Gate, of some parts of the Walls, and of the foundation of the Castle, which certainly occupies the same spot which it did nearly two centuries previous to its destruction in the year 1338. "It is, however, probable, that the old town of St. Mary's, never very considerable, and which would naturally decline in proportion to the increase of the new town, being totally destitute of defence, suffered yet more severely than Southampton itself; and its destruction might be much accelerated by this disaster, as few would re-build their houses without the walls, who could by any means find habitations within them."

Fourth, in his first year, granted the town 200l. to be paid annually, during pleasure, for the repairs of the fortifications. In the same reign, the merchants of Genoa and Jeane, were permitted to import their merchandize into London, but were still obliged to land their commodities previously at Southampton,* or to pay a duty, by way of penalty, for landing them elsewhere.

The English army, which gained such immortal honor on the plains of Agincourt, under Henry the Fifth, was assembled and embarked at Southampton; and here it was that the foul conspiracy against the life of that Monarch was previously discovered and punished. Some writers attribute this conspiracy to the influence of French gold; but others, with greater probability, ascribe its origin to the alliance of the Earl of Cambridge, second son to the Duke of York, with the family of the Earl of March, whose sister he had espoused. The Earl of Cambridge, Lord Scrope of Masham, and Sir Thomas Grey, were the principal conspirators; but the plot, which had for its first object the assassination of the King, was revealed by the Earl of March; and the above noblemen being immediately arrested, were brought to trial, condemned, and executed in this town. Lord Scrope, who had been a particular favorite with the King, was hanged, drawn, and quartered; the others were beheaded. their bodies were interred in the Chapel of the *Domus Dei*, or God's House; where the following inscription, in commemoration of this event, appears on a stone erected by a predecessor of the present Earl of Delaware.

RICHARD, EARL OF CAMBRIDGE,
LORD SCROPE, OF MASHAM,
SIR THOMAS GREY, OF NORTHUMBERLAND,
CONSPIRED TO MURDER KING HENRY V.
IN THIS TOWN,
AS HE WAS PREPARING TO SAIL WITH HIS ARMY AGAINST
CHARLES THE SIXTH, KING OF
FRANCE;
FOR WHICH CONSPIRACY
THEY WERE EXECUTED AND BURIED NEAR THIS
PLACE,
IN THE YEAR M.CCCC.XV.

The

The almost continual wars between England and France during this reign, and the former part of that of Henry the Sixth, greatly affected the commerce of this town, and impoverished its inhabitants, whose distresses are fully set forth in a new charter, granted in the year 1445. The subsequent contentions for empire between the Houses of York and Lancaster, still further contributed to the destruction of its trade: the feuds, indeed, run so high, that a fierce skirmish took place at Southampton, among the partizans of the rival Houses, in which several of the inhabitants were slain. About twenty others of the Lancastrian party were afterwards condemned and executed, and their carcases were impaled by the King's orders.

During the succeeding reigns to that of Henry the Eighth, the commerce of Southampton continued in a tolerably respectable state, and the port was latterly much frequented by the merchants of Venice, who traded pretty largely in wool and tin. The impolicy of permitting the exportation of wool, however, was at length clearly understood; and effectual measures being taken to prevent it, great part of the commerce of this town was lost, as the Levant merchants being no longer able to supply themselves with that commodity, forsook the port.

From this period the importance of Southampton gradually declined for upwards of a century; and Bishop Gibson speaks of it as having lost most of its inhabitants, together with its trade. The great houses of the merchants, he observes, "are now dropping to the ground, and only show its ancient magnificence."* This state of things has, however, again altered; and both the population and commerce of the town have considerably increased during the last century: of late years it has also been much frequented as a watering-place; for which purpose its peculiarly healthful and pleasant situation is extremely favorable.

Southampton is built "on the extreme point of the high gravelly bank which separates the course of the Itchin river from the estuary of the Test, or Anton Water: by this happy choice, the whole town, though almost surrounded with water, enjoys the advantage

* Gibson's Camden, Vol. I. edit. 1695.

vantage of the driest situation; and the fall of level, in every direction, keeps the streets constantly free from damp and filth." The High Street, which runs nearly north and south, is upwards of half a mile in length, and particularly handsome and spacious. Leland notices it as one of the *fayrest* streets in England, and "well buildid for timbre building:" most of the houses are now, however, of brick. The entrance into this street from the land side is by the *Bar-Gate*, the approach to which is very striking, it being continued through an extensive and well-built suburb. On the north front of this gate, are representations of two gigantic figures, which are traditionally said to be intended for Sir Bevois, of Southampton, and the giant Ascupart, whom, according to the popular legends, he slew in combat. Over the arches of the gate is the *Domus Civica*, as Leland terms it, or *Town Hall*, which is fifty-two feet long, and twenty-one feet wide: the ascent to this is by a commodious stone staircase.

The CASTLE was situated on the west side of the town, but very little of the building itself is remaining. Its area was of a form approaching to a semicircle, or rather of a horse-shoe, in the southern part of which stood the keep, on a very high artificial mount. The keep was circular, but has given place to a smaller and more modern round tower, erected with the materials of the former one. The view of the town, and adjacent country, from this spot, is uncommonly interesting. The Castle has been very lately purchased by the Earl of Wycomb, and is now undergoing considerable improvement, for his occasional residence.

Southampton contains six parishes, and five *Churches*; all of which were in existence as early as the time of Henry the Second, who gave four of them to his Priory of St. Dyonisius. *St. Michael's*, which forms the eastern side of the square of the same name, is a very ancient and curious building. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a low tower rising from the centre, and finished by a lofty and well-proportioned octagonal spire, erected about sixty years ago, as a sea-mark for vessels entering into this port. "On each side of the west window," observes Sir H. C. Englefield, who has given a particular description of this

structure in his Walk through Southampton: "the Saxon masonry of the original front is still discernible: in the eastern front the same masonry is also visible, together with a fragment of the little angular column which occurs so frequently in Saxon buildings, and a small morsel of a billeted moulding. The length of the Church from east to west, and the breadth of the nave, are unaltered, but the original side aisles have been taken down, and enlarged. The nave, with its side aisles, as far as the tower, is the only part of the Church used at present for the ordinary divine service; and is separated from the more eastern part by an open screen. The old Saxon columns have been, every other one, taken away, and handsome pointed arches, of considerable space, turned over the remaining ones: their capitals have a small fluting on them common to that style of architecture. The tower stands on four plain and strong semicircular arches, without any sort of ornament, except a very small impost moulding." In the north aisle of the chancel is a handsome monument, in commemoration of the Lord Chancellor WRIOTHESLEY; and in the opposite aisle, on the south, is a most curious antique *Font*. "It consists of a block of black marble, three feet four inches square, and one foot six inches deep, supported in its centre by a cylinder of the same material, ornamented with horizontal rings, so as much to resemble a barrel; and at each angle, by a plain pillar of white stone, one foot six inches high, and about six inches in diameter. The whole stands on another marble block, of about three feet square, and about seven inches deep, out of which are cut bases for the small columns, consisting of a flat ring on a large round cushion: these rest on a plain square plinth of about three inches high; a plain leaf falls from the bases of the columns on each angle of the plinth. The top stone is excavated into an hemispherical bason, two feet six inches in diameter, round which runs a scroll of foliage, of very rude execution, but not bad design; and the angles are filled with an imitation of the ancient ornament, now generally called the honeysuckle. The sides of the block, of which three only are now visible, as the font stands against the wall, are each divided into three circular compartments,

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with a sort of winged monster in each, something like a griffin, except one, which has an angel in a long robe of linen, covered with a shorter tunic: his hands are folded on his heart; and round his head is the nimbus, or glory: behind his shoulders are two wings, which reach to his feet. These sides are one foot one inch and a half deep; the remaining four inches and a half of the thickness of the block, slope away to the central cylinder, in a sort of fluting, or broad leaves, now much defaced. The workmanship of the whole is in the very rudest style of Saxon sculpture."*

All Saints Church is an elegant modern structure, erected since the year 1792, in place of a former Church, which had been found too small for the increased population of the parish. It was built by Mr. John Hookey, from the designs, and under the direction, of the late Mr. Reveley, whose premature decease has deprived the arts of a very valuable supporter. "The front of this building, which is in the High Street, is sixty feet six inches wide, and is adorned with four three-quarter columns of the Ionic order, four feet diameter, and thirty-six feet high, supporting a pediment, on each side of which the angles are finished with *antæ,* or Grecian pilasters. The three central spaces are filled in the lower part by three wide and commodious arches for the entrance doors, with fan lights over them to light the vestibule; and on each side, between the column and pilaster, is a semicircular-headed window, lighting the gallery stair-cases: in the second range are five plain niches."† The entablature is continued round the Church. At the east end is a turret, rising from a square basement, and consisting of six corinthian columns, supporting a circular entablature, on which is an attic, with three faces for the dial, crowned by a dome: this, from its elevated situation, can be seen many miles each way. On entering the Church, the attention is immediately arrested by the bold and graceful curvature of the roof, which springs from the mouldings of the interior pilasters, as from an impost, and is wholly unsupported by columns; its form is that

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* Walk through Southampton, p. 66—80.

† Skelton's Southampton Guide, p. 34.

of the segment of a circle, and its rise eight feet. The altar is contained in a recessed arch, very elegantly ornamented. The length of the Church, in the inside, including the vestibule, but omitting the recess for the altar, is ninety-five feet; its breadth sixty-one feet; its height, from the pavement to the middle of the ceiling, forty-seven feet. The basement, on the south side, and the square plinths of the great columns, are of stone; all the other parts of the building are of brick, stuccoed. The substruction of this Church is divided into arched vaults, or catacombs, so contrived as to prevent any nuisance arising from the practice of interment: as an additional precaution, the coffins, which must be of lead, are always inclosed in stone. The remains of CAPTAIN CARTERET, the celebrated circumnavigator, and of the late BRYAN EDWARDS, Esq. of Springfield, near this town, author of the History of the West Indies, are deposited in this building.

Holy Rood Church is a large building, with a tower at the south-west angle, and a colonnade in front, vulgarly called the *Proclamation*, where the hustings is erected, and the poll taken, on the election of the representatives for this town. The interior is handsome, and had formerly a regular choir, many of the stalls of which yet remain. Here, among other monuments of the *Stanleys* of Poultons, is one, executed by Rysbrach, to the memory of MISS E. STANLEY, sister to the late Right Hon. Hans Stanley, with an elegant inscription by the poet Thomson, who has also celebrated this accomplished woman in his Seasons. She died in the year 1738, at the age of eighteen, "a mistress not only of the English and French, but in a high degree of the Greek and Roman learning." The Churches of *St. Mary*, and *St. Lawrence*, are not particularly remarkable. The parish of *St. John* was annexed to that of St. Lawrence in the year 1706; and its Church has been long pulled down.

The *Parsonage* of Holy Rood Church is an old and curious edifice. Various other buildings, in different parts of the town, display considerable antiquity, and particularly the spacious mansion in Porter's Lane, near the site of the Water Gate, which has

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been minutely described by the ingenious pen of Sir H. C. Englefield,* who conjectures it to have constituted a part of the palace, occasionally inhabited by the Saxon and Danish Sovereigns: the length of the front of this building is 111 feet.

The *Domus Dei*, or God's House, was founded in the reign of Henry the Third, by two merchants, brothers, of the names of Gervasius, and Protasius. It was afterwards given, by Edward the Third, to Queen's College, Oxford, which had been founded by Philippa, his Queen, and to which it still belongs. The present establishment consists of a Warden, four aged men, and as many women, who are allowed two shillings each, weekly, from the College; and have a yearly donation of coals from another charity. The Chapel is very ancient, but its original form has been greatly altered by repairs. Divine service is now performed here in the French language; and the congregation chiefly consists of the natives of Jersey and Guernsey, who reside in Southampton.

Among the other ancient institutions in this town, was a House of *Grey Friars*, founded in the year 1240, but of which scarcely any remains are now standing; part of its site being occupied by Glocester Square; and another part, by a large building, originally constructed as a Sugar Refinery, afterwards converted into a Military Hospital, and now used as a warehouse "for the vast quantities of Spanish wool, which, by *stress of weather*, are landed here every year." Here was also an *Hospital* for Lepers, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and long previous to the Dissolution, given to the Priory of St. Dyonisius. *St. John's Hospital*, a less ancient establishment, for the instruction of six boys in the woollen manufacture, has been lately given to the Poor House by the Corporation, with the consent of the heir of the founder. The *Poor House* is a large modern and convenient building.

A *Free Grammar School* was established in Southampton by Edward the Sixth, in an old building in Winkle-Street, now used as a carpet manufactory, from which, many years afterwards, it was

* See Archæologia, Vol. XIV. The description is illustrated by three engravings.

was removed to its present situation, an ancient mansion, known by the name of West-Hall: the dining-room has a stuccoed ceiling in compartments, and is supposed to be at least as old as the time of Henry the Eighth. The master is appointed by the Corporation; but the original plan has been departed from, the scholars being chiefly boarders. A *Charity School* for ten boys has also been established here, by means of a donation bequeathed previous to the year 1760, by Alderman Taunton, of this town: some part of the produce of whose bequest is appropriated, under a decree of the Court of Chancery, to the apportioning female servants on their marriage, who may be able to prove a faithful servitude of four years or upwards. *Sunday Schools* were instituted here in the year 1786, and are still continued: the overplus of the funds, which arise from gifts, and annual subscriptions, are appropriated to the support of a *School of Industry;* for the more complete instruction of twenty-five girls taken from the sunday schools. Near the entrance of the town, on the right, is a neat building, or range of *Alms-Houses,* erected about fifteen years ago, for the accommodation of eighteen poor widows, who are allowed two shillings each, weekly, from the produce arising from a bequest by Robert Thorner, Esq. of Baddesley, who died in July 1690.

Southampton is a county in itself, a privilege bestowed on it by King John, and as such is independent of the Lord Lieutenant, and Sheriff of Hampshire, having its own Clerk of the Peace, which office has been added by charter to that of Town Clerk. The Corporation consists of a Mayor, Recorder, Sheriff, two Bailiffs, and a Common-Council, (constituted by all those that have served the foregoing offices,) a Town Clerk, two Coroners, and other inferior officers. These are chosen under a charter of Charles the First, which, however, is little more than a confirmation of the charters granted by many of his predecessors. The Corporation have the power of choosing non-resident Burgesses, who, though not members of the Common-Council, are privileged to vote at elections for the Mayor, and for the parliamentary representatives: the number of voters for the latter is about 600; and consists of the Burgesses, and such of the inhabitants as pay

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and lot: the first return was made in the twenty-third of Edward the First. The Mayor is Admiral of the Liberties from South-Sea Castle to Hurst Castle, and half-sea over from Calshot to the Isle of Wight. The records and regalia of the Corporation are kept in the *Audit-House*, a handsome building, erected about thirty years ago; the ground floor of which is open, and, with a large area behind it, forms a commodious market, which is exceedingly well and plentifully supplied: the market days are every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Four *Fairs* are held here annually; the principal of which is opened by the Mayor and Bailiffs, with much ceremony, on the Saturday preceding Trinity Sunday, and continues till the Wednesday noon following. It is held near the east side of the town, on the road leading to the Chapel Mill, on the site of which was formerly an *Hermitage*, occupied by William Geoffry, to whom, and to the town of Southampton, this fair was granted by one of the Henries. During the continuance of the fair, no person can be arrested for debt within its precincts.

The attractions which Southampton presents for sea-bathing, and other healthful purposes, are increased by a *Chalybeate Spring*, rising about 100 yards to the westward of Bar-Gate, and much in repute for its medicinal qualities. The *Baths* are convenient, and every attention is paid to the accommodation of the numerous visitants who frequent this town during the bathing season. The great influx of company of late years, has, indeed, given origin to many improvements; though even here, as at Clifton,* speculation has acted on false data, and several plans for additional buildings, from which important advantages were predicted, have been either abandoned altogether, or had their execution protracted to a distant and unknown period. The *Assembly Rooms* are beautifully situated near the West Quay, and very elegantly fitted up; the Long Room was built in 1761, the Ball Room about six years afterwards. A *Theatre* was erected here in 1766; but this, though subsequently enlarged, being still found inadequate to accommodate the numbers that frequently sought admission, a new one, on a much more extensive and commodious scale, has just been built, on the site of St. John's Hospital. Additional recreation is de-

* See Vol. V. p. 732.

rived from the *Races*, which are annually held on Stoneham Common, about three miles from the town, and from an annual *Sailing Match*, instituted by G. H. Rose, Esq. one of the members for Southampton.

The principal trade of this port is with Portugal and the Baltic, and the Islands of Jersey and Guernsey to the two latter places, 6000 tons of unwrought wool are allowed to be exported annually, great part of which is again returned, manufactured into coarse knit hose hemp, iron, and tallow, are imported from Russia, and tar and pitch from Sweden, the importations from Portugal are chiefly wine and fruit. English iron is also brought coastwise from Wales, and coals, lead, and glass, from Newcastle. The situation of Southampton being far more favorable for navigation than manufactures, the latter are principally confined to those of silk and carpets Formerly, sloops of war and frigates were built here, but this business has declined, and only small vessels are now construc ed For commercial purposes, three *Banks* have been established at Southampton, and an Act of Parliament obtained, for cutting a *Canal* from the platform on the south side of the town, to the Andover navigation at Redbridge, &c. but this, as well as other projected improvements, are now in a dormant state, from the general effect of the war—a want of money

The principal springs which supply the inhabitants with water, for domestic purposes, rise in the hill about a mile north of the town, and unite at an ancient stone conduit-house, near the Polygon, whence the water is transmitted to the conduits within the walls through leaden pipes. The population of Southampton, as returned under the act of 1801, was 7913; viz. 3390 males, and 4523 females. the number of houses was 1582. The environs of the town are particularly pleasant; and the neighbouring country abounds with elegant seats, and finely situated villages. Near the town, on the north, are *Barracks* for the reception of cavalry, which have been lately erected by Government, and occupy about two acres of ground.

With the eminent natives of Southampton is enumerated Dr. Isaac Watts, born in July 1674. His father kept a boarding-

school

young gentlemen; but young Watts appears to have early sent to the Free-School in this town, where his ...cy in languages became so conspicuous, that a subscription was proposed to support him at the University: this scheme, however, failed, from his resolution to take his lot with the Dissenters; and "such he was," observes Dr. Johnson, "as every Christian Church would rejoice to have adopted."* About the age of twenty-two, he became domestic tutor to the son of Sir John Hartopp, with whom he continued five years, when he was appointed to succeed Dr. Chauncey, as pastor to a religious congregation. In 1712, his health was irreparably injured by a violent fever, of long continuance, which rendering the kind offices of his friends necessary, he was prevailed on, by Sir Thomas Abney, to reside with him; and in his family he continued during the remainder of his days, being "treated with all the kindness that friendship could prompt, and all the attention that respect could dictate." He died in his seventy-fifth year, of mere decay from age; after a life of active piety, and unwearied benevolence. His writings are numerous, and much valued; particularly those which relate to the instruction of youth, from "the dawn of reason, through its gradations of advance in the morning of life." His Treatise on *Logic* has been admitted as a class book into the Universities; and his *Improvement of the Mind* is equally valuable for the purposes of education. Some of his poetry is very pleasing; his *Translation of the Psalms* is by far the best in general use: "It is sufficient," says Dr. Johnson, "for Watts to have done better than others, what no man has done well." The merit of his labors procured him an unsolicited diploma, which he received from Edinburgh and Aberdeen in 1728. The praise bestowed on him by the eminent critic already referred to, marks both the vigor of his genius, and the extent of his capacity. "He has provided instruction for all ages, from those who are lisping their first lessons, to the enlightened readers of Malebranche and Locke; he has left neither corporeal nor spiritual nature unexamined; he has taught the art of reasoning, and the science of the stars."

* Lives of the Poets.

From the South Gate, and Platform at Southampton, runs a *Causeway*, or *Causey*, planted with trees, and nearly half a mile in length. This walk is called the *Beach*, and in its whole length commands a view of the Southampton Water, enlivened by a multitude of vessels, and closed by the Isle of Wight. Near its eastern extremity is the *Cross-House*, and Itchin Ferry: the former is a small round structure, with four divisions, or apartments, opposite to the principal points of the compass, and intended for the accommodation of passengers waiting for the ferry-boat. In one of the quarters are the arms of Southampton, with the date 1634; but parts of the building are apparently much older. "At this point the ferrymen do homage to the Mayor and Corporation, whenever the perambulation of the boundaries of the town is performed; and, in return for the permission of landing on the demesne of the town, engage at all times to carry over gratis, the Burgesses and their families."

About three miles from Southampton, to the south-east, in a very beautiful situation, at a little distance from the banks of the Southampton Water, are the ruins of NETLEY ABBEY; formerly called *Letley*, or Pleasant Place, and also *Edward-stow*, by which name it occurs in a charter granted by Henry the Third, who is generally considered as its founder; though some doubts have been raised as to the fact. Henry's charter is dated in the thirty-fifth of his reign, (anno 1251;) but Tanner asserts, that the Abbey was founded in 1239; and it is certain that Roger de Clare (on consideration of receiving 500 marks sterling) endowed it with certain possessions within three years of that period, that is in 1242. Among its subsequent benefactors, were Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, Robert Ver, and Walter de Burg; the latter of whom invested it with lands in the county of Lincoln, which he held of the King, *in capité*, by the service of presenting him with a head-piece, lined with fine linen, and a pair of gilt spurs. Its inmates were of the Cistercian order, and had been originally brought from the neighbouring Abbey at Beaulieu. At the time of the Dissolution, their number was thirteen; and the annual value of their possessions, according to Dugdale, was only 100l. 1s. 8d.

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yet Speed has returned it at 160l. 2s. 9¼d. Their library, as appears from Leland's Collectanea, could boast but of a single book, and that was the *Rhetorica Ciceronis*. In the year 1537, Henry the Eighth granted the site of the Abbey to Sir William Paulet, afterwards Marquis of Winchester. From his family it appears to have passed, probably by purchase, to that of the Earls of Hertford; as Edward Seymour, son of the Protector Somerset, who was restored to the titles of Earl of Hertford, and Baron Beauchamp, by Queen Elizabeth, resided here in the year 1560, and entertained his Royal mistress in the month of August, in *Netley Castle*.* Towards the end of the following century, it became the property of the Marquis of Huntingdon; and has since passed through several families to Sir Nathaniel Holland, Bart. who obtained it by his marriage with the widow of the late N. Dance, Esq. together with the ancient mansion called WOOLSTAN HOUSE, which occupies a very fine situation contiguous to the Itchin river.

Netley Abbey stands on the declivity of a hill, rising gently from the water; but so environed by beautiful woody scenery, as to be almost secluded from observation, except on a near approach. The ruins have often furnished a theme for poetical description, and moral precept; and the lyre of Keate, of Sotheby, and of Bowles, has been alike employed in mournful plainings over the fallen splendor of this foundation.

"Now sunk, deserted, and with weeds o'ergrown,
 Yon prostrate walls their awful fate bewail;
Low on the ground their topmost spires are thrown,
 Once friendly marks to guide the wandering sail.

The ivy now with rude luxuriance bends
 Its tangled foliage through the cloister'd space,
O'er the green window's mouldering height ascends,
 And fondly clasps it with a last embrace.

 While

* This is corroborated by the following entry in the register of St. Michael's Parish, at Southampton. "The Queen's Majesty's Grace came from the Castle of Netley to Southampton on the thirteenth day of August, and she went from thence to the City of Winchester on the sixteenth day, 1560."

> While the self-planted oak, within confin'd,
> (Auxiliar to the tempest's wild uproar,)
> Its giant branches fluctuates to the wind,
> And rends the wall, whose aid it courts no more."
>
> KEATE'S NETLEY ABBEY.*

The destruction of the Abbey Church, or Chapel, according to Browne Willis, commenced about the period when it was in[illegible] bited by the Marquis of Huntingdon, who converted the nav[illegible] or west end, into a kitchen, and offices. Sir Bartlet Lucy, as [illegible] from this writer, (but others say the Marquis of Huntingdon,) [illegible]d the materials of the whole fabric to a Mr. Walter Taylor, a builder, of Southampton, soon after the beginning of the last century, for the purpose of removing them, to erect a town-house at Newport, and dwelling-houses at other places. An accident which befel Mr. Taylor, in consequence of this purchase, and which afterwards led to his death, has been regarded by the vulgar as a judgment inflicted by Heaven, for his presumed guilt, in undertaking to destroy a sacred edifice; but more enlightened understandings can only regard it as the effect of a fortuitous combination of circumstances, in perfect accordance with the established laws of Nature.

* The elegiac effusion of Bowles over the dismantled, but picturesque, remnant of this Abbey, possesses great beauty.

> "Fall'n pile! I ask not what has been thy fate;—
> But when the weak winds, wafted from the main,
> Through each lone arch, like spirits that complain,
> Come hollow to my ear, I meditate
> On this world's passing pageant, and the lot
> Of those who once might proudly, in their prime,
> Have stood, with giant port; till, bow'd by time
> Or injury, their ancient boast forgot,
> They might have sunk, like thee: though thus forlorn,
> They lift their heads, with venerable hairs
> Besprent, majestic yet, and as in scorn
> Of mortal vanities and short-liv'd cares;—
> E'en so dost thou, lifting thy forehead grey,
> Smile at the tempest, and Time's sweeping sway."



Nature. The original narrative of this event, as given by Browne Willis, is in several particulars erroneous, as appears from the result* of a late enquiry, made of Mr. Taylor's family; and the substance of which is as follows. After Mr. Taylor had made his contract, some of his friends observed in conversation, that they would never be concerned in the demolition of holy and consecrated places: these words impressed his memory so strongly, that he dreamed, that, in taking down the Abbey, the key-stone of the arch over the east window fell from its place, and killed him. ... he related to Mr. Watts, (father of Dr. Isaac Watts,) ... him not to have any personal concern in pulling ... building; yet this advice being insufficient to deter him ... sisting in the work, the creations of sleep were unhappily ... d; for, on endeavoring to remove some boards within the ... window, to admit air to the workmen, a stone fell upon, and ... actured his skull. The fracture was not thought mortal; but, in the operation of extracting a splinter, the surgeon's instrument entered the brain,* and caused immediate death. Whether this accident occasioned a direct stop to be put to the demolition of the Abbey is uncertain, but the superstitious gloom which it generated, has had an evident tendency to the preservation of the ruins in more modern times.

The *Chapel* was built in the form of a cross, and was originally a very elegant structure, in the English style of architecture; but its beautiful roof, richly adorned by ramifications spreading from the intersections of the groining, has fallen in, its north transept is destroyed, most of its windows are bereaved of their tra... ...many other parts are completely mutilated. The southern ..., and the east end, are the most perfect; the columns and ...which remain are beautifully light, and elegant. On the ...ide of the intersection of the transept, are the remains of a ...taircase, that led to the upper part of the tower, which is ...d to have been ornamented with pinnacles, and served as a ...or seamen. Various devices, and armorial insignia, sup... ... be those of the benefactors to the Abbey, may be traced

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* See Skelton's Southampton Guide, p. 62, 63.

on the ruins that strew the ground. The length of the Chapel appears to have been about 200 feet, and its breadth, sixty: the extent of the transept, when entire, was nearly 120 feet. Many parts of the ruins are finely mantled with ivy; and the various trees that have sprung up among its mouldering walls, greatly increase the picturesque appearance of the whole.

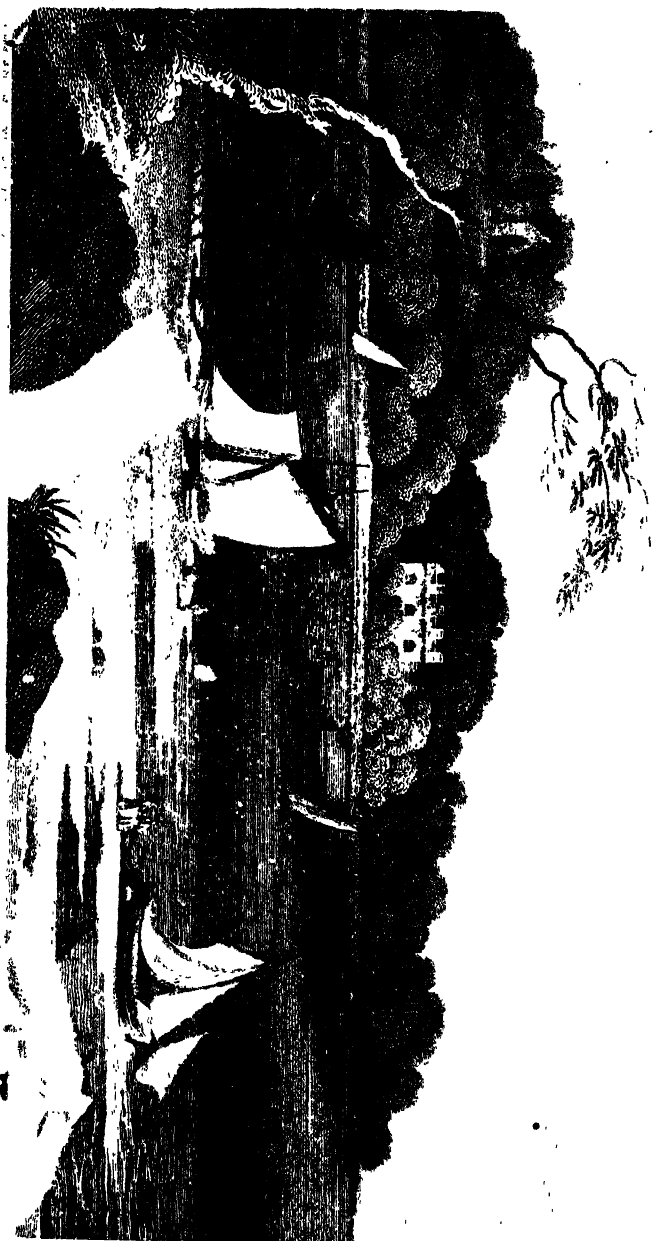
Several other parts of the monastic buildings remain, but all of them are dilapidated. The *Abbot's Kitchen*, as it is generally called, though more probably an ancient Crypt, adapted to that use by the Earls of Hertford, is a curious vaulted apartment about forty-eight feet long, and eighteen broad. The chimney, or fire place, is of very singular form; nearly opposite to it, is a dark vault, or aperture, said to terminate in a coppice at some little distance from the Abbey. The *Chapter-House*, which formed a square of about thirty-six feet, and was of elegant architecture, the *Refectory*, about forty-five feet in length, and twenty-four in width, and some other apartments, may also be distinguished. These buildings, with others now almost obliterated, appear to have inclosed a quadrangular court, of which the Chapel bounded the south side. A moat, that surrounded the Abbey, may yet be traced; and at a short distance, overhung with trees and underwood, are two large ponds, which supplied the Monastery with fish.

Near the Abbey, but more immediately contiguous to the Southampton Water, are the ruins of the small fort called NETLEY CASTLE, which was erected by Henry the Eighth, at the same period that he built Calshot, and other castles in this vicinity. The views over the water from this fort are good, but the building itself affords no materials for description.

At HAMBLE, a small village near the mouth of the river of that name, was an alien PRIORY of Cistercians, which appears to have been a Cell to Tyrone Abbey, in France, as early as the time of De Blois, Bishop of Winchester.

About three miles up the Hamble river, is the village of BURSLEDON, where several fine vessels have been built for the British navy. The creek is particularly commodious for this purpose, and the depth of water sufficient for eighty gun ships, two of this size are recorded to have been built here in the time of William

the



the Third. On the barren waste stretching eastward from this village, the gallant troops, which the Earl of Moira conducted to Ostend, in 1794, were previously assembled and encamped; and here also, in the summer of 1800, was the rendezvous of a part of the army with which the brave Sir Ralph Abercrombie tore the ensanguined laurel from the grasp of the French Invincibles on the sands of Egypt.

BOTLEY is a respectable village, having a considerable flour trade: the mills being worked by the water of the Hamble river, w[illegible] vigable for boats to this place. The *Church* is nearly a [illegible] to the south, and consists only of a nave and chancel; [illegible] ancient and curious. Botley was the residence of the [illegible]obert *Stares*, whose infamous practices will probably occa[illegible] his name to be long remembered with detestation. He was a miller, breeder, and farmer; yet his cupidity was such, that he scrupled not to exercise what ever means would enable him to obtain money; though by his imposing address, he continued for a great number of years to ward off the consequences of his knavery, and to procure the reputation of being an honest man. His arts, however, were at length detected, and his possessions were seized, and sold for the benefit of his creditors; but not before his exaggerated estimates had so greatly imposed on the judgment of eight gentlemen, that they became his trustees, to the eventual loss of nearly 50,000l. He died in April, 1798; a melancholy victim to feelings mingled of shame, vexation, and remorse.*

TOWNHILL, about two miles west of Botley, is the seat of Nathaniel Middleton, Esq. who has lately erected a spacious and elegant mansion here, with suitable offices, on an eminence commanding some extensive and interesting views: the Park and Gar[illegible] are pleasant. Several neat villas adorn the country between [illegible] mansion and Southampton, particularly MIDANBURY LODGE, [illegible] property of R. Johnson, Esq. BITTERN LODGE, the seat of [illegible]mes Dott, Esq. and CHESSEL, the residence of David Lance, Esq. BELLE-VUE, the delightful residence of Josiah Jackson, Esq. [illegible] situated near Southampton, on the west side of the Itchin river.

The

* In the Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. is a well-written memoir of this artful speculator, occupying upwards of twenty-four pages.

The house is a superb modern edifice, commanding a most exquisite prospect over the Southampton Water, which appears spread out like a spacious lake, and the adjacent country. The Shrubberies and Gardens are extensive; the Green-House, and Hot-House, are very elegant, and furnished with plants of almost every description, both indigenous and exotic.

About one mile and a half north-west from Southampton is FREEMANTLE, the villa of John Jarrett, Esq. the interior of which is very elegantly ornamented, and particularly a Parlour, whose sides are veneered with choice marble, purchased in Italy by the present proprietor. The Library and Drawing-Room are tastefully ornamented with arebusque paintings: two neat [illegible] have been lately erected here with artificial stone.

REDBRIDGE, a populous hamlet, at the mouth of the river Test, in the parish of Milbrook, is of very remote origin, and is mentioned, in Bede's Ecclesiastical History, by the appellation *Reodford*, or *Reed-ford*: this was afterwards changed to *Rodbrige*, as appears by the Domesday Book; and hence the derivation of its present name. Here was a *Monastery* in the infancy of the Saxon Church, but no particulars concerning it are known. Cynbreth, or Cimberth, who was Abbot about the year 687, is recorded to have converted, and baptised, the two brothers of Arvandus, the Sovereign of the Isle of Wight, before their execution by command of Ceadwalla, King of Wessex, who had conquered that Isle, and treated its inhabitants with great inhumanity.* Redbridge has a considerable trade in coals, timber, corn, &c. and ship-building has been carried on here for a great length of time.† The Andover Canal terminates here, and the whole place has

* The young Princes had crossed from the Isle of Wight to Hampshire, and concealed themselves at a place called *Ad Lapidem*, but were afterwards betrayed to Ceadwalla. Ad Lapidem is supposed to be *Stone*, in the parish of Fawley, as that place is on the sea-coast, and immediately opposite to the Isle of Wight.

† Several vessels have lately been built at Redbridge, calculated for very swift sailing, on the curious construction of Brigadier General *Bentham's*

has a very busy appearance. The *Bridge* is partly of considerable age, and partly modern; it unites with a new causeway, that has been continued over the marshes to the village of Totton.

Having

Bentham, now superintendant of naval-works in the Dock-Yards. "This gentleman, who possesses an extraordinary genius in the ship-building line, received permission from the Lords of the Admiralty, in the spring of the year 1795, to put some of his experiments into execution a[illegible] [illegible]ridge. In the formation of these vessels, the sa[illegible]i[illegible]g in the a[illegible] timber is very great, as they do not take up more than an [illegible] part of that which is employed in the common mode of framing [illegible] Bulk-heads, or partitions, are placed athwart the vessels, as [illegible]ell as fore and aft; which make them at least equally strong with ships constructed in the ordinary way, at about half the expence, and are also calculated to preserve them from sinking, should they at any time spring a leak, or strike against a rock, and the water would then be confined by these balk-heads. The two first of the vessels built under General Bentham's inspection, were called Gun Schooners. These were each from 140 to 160 tons burthen, and were named the Redbridge, and the Milbrook; one of them carrying sixteen, and the other fourteen, eighteen pounders. The two next were each of 600 tons, and were called the Dart and Arrow, each carrying twenty-eight thirty-two pounders: these were denominated Sloops of War, but they are at present equal, if not superior, to our common frigates of twenty-eight guns. Instead of their usual ballast, they are furnished with capacious tanks, or reservoirs, made of tinned copper, and containing forty tons of water in bulk: these are placed in the wings of the vessel; take up but little room, and are not found in the least detrimental, even in heavy gales. The water with which they were filled, after having [illegible]een two years on board, still retained its sweetness and transparency. [illegible]he two last that were built, very nearly resembled the first: they [illegible]ere named the Netley and the Eling; one of them has fourteen, and [illegible]other twelve, eighteen pounders. Those who have sailed in these [illegible]ious vessels, as well as gentlemen well acquainted with naval tactics, [illegible]gree, that they are equally strong with our ordinary ships; that they sail better, and that they are, on the whole, the best sea-boats that swim: they will also safely ride at anchor, in such circumstances as would oblige other vessels to part, or at least, slip their cables."

Butler's Companion round Southampton, 1801.

Having entered the ancient precincts of the NEW FOREST, we shall give a somewhat extended account of that district; as it is not only interesting in itself, but also from its connection with history, and particularly so with regard to the annals of the first and second of our Norman Sovereigns. This tract, according to its earliest boundaries, included the whole of that part of Hampshire, which lies between the Southampton River on the east, the British Channel on the south, and the river Avon on the west. The advantages it derives from this situation, in respect to conveniency of water-carriage, are superior to those associated with any other forest in England; having in its vicinity several places for shipping timber, among which are Lymington, Beaulieu, and Redbridge. With the additional advantage of the remotest of these ports being little more than thirty miles from the dock-yard at Portsmouth, the most considerable naval arsenal in the kingdom.

That this was a woody tract previous to its complete afforestation by William the Conqueror, (of which the Domesday Book affords a most authentic proof,) may be inferred from its ancient name, *Itene*, or *Y Thene*, as well as from other circumstances. The memory of that Sovereign, however, has been unjustly calumniated on account of the formation of the New Forest, as will clearly appear from the ensuing statement, which has been partly condensed from the Topographical Remarks on Hampshire, by Mr. Warner, and partly formed from an attentive examination of the remarks of others on the same subject.

In Lambarde's Topographical Dictionary the New Forest is described in the following terms. "A large portion of Hampshire, which, after the opinion of the most and best approved historians, William the Conqueror laid to Forest, destroying townes, villages, and churches, thirty miles longe."

This is an abridgment of the first monkish accounts of the formation of the New Forest; accounts followed implicitly (but with increasing aggravations) by every annalist, and writer of English history, from the conclusion of the eleventh century to the beginning of the last; at which æra Voltaire started doubts with respect to the fact of William's devastations: and another elegant writer,

 (Dr.

(Dr. Warton,) in his "Essay on the Life and Writings of Pope," concurred with Voltaire as to the Conqueror's character being in this instance misrepresented, and his oppressions magnified. The devastation attributed to William, by some historians, has been finely versified by the above poet; and even his coloring scarcely exceeds the strong language of his prototypes.

> "Proud Nimrod first the bloody chase began;
> A mighty hunter, and his prey was man.
> Our haughty Norman boasts that barb'rous name,
> And makes his trembling slaves the royal game.
> The fields are ravish'd from th' industrious swains;
> From men, their cities; and from gods, their fanes:
> The levelled towns with weeds lie cover'd o'er;
> The hollow winds through naked temples roar;
> Round broken columns, clasping ivy twin'd;
> O'er heaps of ruin stalk'd the stately hind;
> The fox obscene to gaping tombs retires,
> And savage howlings fill the sacred quires."

That the picture of William's tyranny is overcharged, only a little attention is requisite to discover: and to whatever extent the afforestation by that Monarch may have been carried, there can be little hazard in declaring, that the act itself was *not* attended with those circumstances of outrage and violation which the monkish writers have so minutely detailed: the devastation of many villages, the extermination of the inhabitants, and the destruction of (according to different writers) twenty-two, thirty-six, fifty-two, or even sixty churches.*

With respect to the monkish writers, who first raised the cry of sacrilege against the Conqueror for this afforestation, we should cautiously admit their evidence in matters wherein themselves were [illegible]ested. Indeed, our caution should be doubled in the present [illegible]ce; since these ecclesiastics, the only biographers of William, were

* Walter, Mapes, Hemingford, Knyghton, &c. The singular circumstance of the Conqueror's sons, Richard and William Rufus, and his grandson Henry, all meeting their deaths in the New Forest, have greatly contributed to establish the opinion of his cruelty in forming it; these events being popularly regarded as judgments.

were his bitterest and most rancorous foes. Exasperated by injuries and contumely, which his power prevented them from revenging, they siezed the means of retaliation, to which impotence and little minds too frequently have recourse, and took every method to traduce his name, and blast his memory: magnifying each small deviation from propriety into enormous wickedness, each exertion of prerogative into unbounded tyranny; and when real sources of abuse failed, inventing excesses which never occurred, and evils that never had a being.

It is peculiarly remarkable that the author of the latter part of the Saxon Chronicle, who was indisputably contemporary with William, and who seems to have viewed his vices with a severe eye, should not take the least notice of the afforestation, nor of the cruelties said to be inflicted on its inhabitants in consequence of it. Every other memorable event of this reign he particularly relates; the total devastation of Northumberland; the compilation of the Domesday Book; the universal and formal introduction of the feudal system into the kingdom; and the fearful famine and pestilence, which other monkish writers have converted into an infliction from heaven as the punishment of William's supposed acts of tyranny. These are all circumstantially mentioned, but not a hint occurs relative to the formation of the New Forest. What is still more singular, he paints the Conqueror's passion for the chace in the warmest colors; and condemns it with the greatest severity, lamenting the excesses which the indulgence of it led him to commit; in the enumeration of which, he would most assuredly have included the remarkable one of the devastation in Hampshire, if the circumstance had reached his knowledge. May we not then fairly infer, from the silence of this accurate and impartial writer, that the *Afforestation*, which, from the authority of the Domesday Book, was incontrovertibly made by William, was effected with such little injury to the subject, and such little disturbance of social intercourse, that it was scarcely, perhaps entirely, unnoticed beyond the immediate scene of its occurrence?

It is further observable, that no particular æra is marked by these annalists at which this afforestation was made; a very extraordinary

ordinary instance of omission in writers whose chief merit is accuracy in arranging events under the years when they respectively happened. Surely so obnoxious an exertion of power, attended with so many circumstances of tyrannical oppression; involving so large a tract of country in desolation, and such numbers of people in utter distress; and giving such a violent shock to the opinions of the age, by throwing down, without ceremony, the walls of such a number of churches; must have been generally known, and as universally execrated. Can we suppose, then, that writers who were on the watch for opportunities of loading William with blame, would not instantly have seized so striking an instance of his unfeeling tyranny; and minuted down, with the nicest accuracy, every circumstance of time, place, and manner attending it; since they must have been sensible, that these minutiæ are what stamp every recorded fact with the appearance of authenticity! The destruction of so many churches would have been a noble theme for monkish declamation: and we may rest assured, that these ecclesiastics would have detailed every sacrilegious circumstance with malignant particularity. Instead, however, of these distinct notices, we have nothing but general, confused, and discordant accounts, neither specifying the period of the afforestation, nor agreeing in the number of churches destroyed. It would be a waste of time to enter into a more detailed refutation of the extravagant falsehoods detailed by these monkish writers: even the most modest of them has egregiously overstepped the line of probability in his account. In tracts of country which, (from their nature,) must have been, in ancient times, but thinly peopled, places of public worship were sparingly scattered; and one church frequently served a very extensive district. Such probably was the case in the New Forest: for if these edifices ever existed in such numbers as are said to have been destroyed, some remains of them would surely have been discovered in subsequent periods, and would even now be discoverable.

In thus vindicating the Conqueror from the extreme injustice that has been done to his memory, as to the tyranny exercised in forming the New Forest, it is by no means our intention to absolve him from all reproach respecting devastations. With the

evidence in the Domesday Book before us,* such an attempt would be inexcusable; and sufficient proof of his oppression and cruelties may be found in other records. In regard even to the New Forest, it is evident that many persons must have been dispossessed of their lands, ere such an extensive tract could have been wholly at his disposal; but yet this was no more than had been previously done in every part of the kingdom, and would therefore appear to be undeserving of *particular* reproach. On the whole, it may be fairly surmised, that William, "being passionately fond of hunting, and wishing to extend the scenes of his favorite amusement, fixed on this corner of Hampshire as a spot proper for his purpose, and accordingly converted a large proportion of it into forest; but that the afforestation was made without much injury to the subject, or offence to religion, from the scantiness of its population, and the barrenness of its surface."

That the afforestation of this district took place between the end of Edward the Confessor's reign and the time of the compilation of the Domesday Book, is evident from that invaluable record itself, in which will be found, in many instances, the contents of each field, or estate, laid into the Forest, in hides, carucates, or virgates; (terms then used in the admeasurement of land;) the names of the hundreds and villages, and of the former proprietors, (for the most part Saxon;) the rent or yearly value of each possession, and the tax paid for each to the Crown, during the reign of Edward the Confessor.

The names of many of the places having been changed since the time of the survey, it is difficult to ascertain, with precision, what were then the limits of the Forest. The oldest Perambulation extant, is dated in the 8th Edward I. This is preserved in the Chapter-house at Westminster. The boundaries there described, include all the country from Southampton river on the east, to the

Avon

* From that record it appears, that in the city of York, between the Confessor's time and the final year of the survey, (1086,) a third part of the houses had become desolate; (Domesday Book, Vol. I. folio, p. 298.) and in Ipswich; (Vol. II. p. 290.) Norwich; (Vol. II. p. 116.) Thetford; (Vol. II. p. 18.) and a great variety of other places, the same distress is recorded.

Avon on the west, following the sea-coast as the southern boundary between those rivers; and extending northwards as far as North Chardeford, or North Charford, on the west; and to Wade and Orebrugge, or Owerbridge, on the east.

Another Perambulation, made in the 29th of the same King, and now preserved in the Tower, leaves out, however, a great part of the county contained in the former; and confines the Forest to limits which appear to have been followed in the 22d of Charles II. when the Forest was again perambulated. By the *Charta de Foresta*, all lands not belonging to the Crown, which had been afforested by Henry II. Richard I. or John, were to be disafforested; but as no provision was made for the reduction of the more ancient afforestations, it is not easy to account for the great diminution of this Forest in the reign of Edward I. who was not a Prince likely to submit to any encroachments on his rights.*

* We have here, as in most of the ensuing observations on this Forest, followed the accounts given by the Commissioners appointed by Parliament in their Reports of 1789, which, in general, are extremely accurate; but a gentleman conversant in ancient records, and with our early laws, has enabled us to reconcile the difference between the two Perambulations, by reference to the conclusion of the latter. The first is a mere entry on the back of a Plea-Roll of the Metes and Bounds of the Forest, as they were then; whereas the second is a regular Perambulation of the Forest, made by a jury sworn, under a commission from the King, and in the presence of all the officers of the Forest; who, after a most minute and particular detail of the boundaries, add, "And the Jurors say that the aforesaid Metes and Bounds include all that was within the Forest before the Coronation of King Henry, Great-Grandfather of the King that now is; that our Lord the King has no Demesne-Wood without the said Metes; and that all the Woods, Lands, and Places, lying without the before-described Metes and Bounds, *which by this Perambulation are disafforested*, were brought within the Forest after the Time of the Coronation of the Great-Grandfather of the King; but in what Parcels, or in what Times of each Reign, the Jurors were ignorant." This proceeding was clearly conformable to the Charta de Foresta referred to by the Commissioners, which was passed the 9th of Henry III.

According to the Perambulation of the 22d of Charles II. the Forest extends from Godshill on the north-west, to the sea on the south-east, about twenty miles; and from Hardley on the east, to Ringwood on the west, about fifteen miles; and contains within those limits about 92,365 statute acres. "The whole of that quantity, however, is not forest-land, or now the property of the Crown; there are several manors, and other freehold estates, within the Perambulation, belonging to individuals, to the amount of about 24,797 acres: about 625 of these are copyhold, or customary lands, belonging to His Majesty's Manor of Lyndhurst: about 1004* leasehold, under the Crown, granted for certain terms of years, and forming part of the demised land-revenue under the management of the Surveyor-General of the Crown Lands: about 901 acres are purprestures, or encroachments on the Forest: about 1193 acres are inclosed lands, held by the Master-keepers and Groom-keepers, with their respective Lodges: the remainder, being about 63,845 acres, are the woods and waste-lands of the Forest."

In each species of the property above-mentioned, the Crown has different rights or interests.

In the freeholds, the Crown preserves certain rights relative to deer and game; which rights are now of little value to the Crown; but if they could be exercised according to the ancient forest laws, might be very prejudicial to the owners of the lands.

The copyholds are subject to certain small quit-rents and fines: and the timber and trees are the property of the Crown.

The estates granted by lease are the entire property of the Crown: these are now only Cox Leaze, with Pondhead Farm, and woods adjoining, containing about 587 acres; as New Park, which was formerly in lease to an individual, is now in the possession of the Crown; and is used as a farm for furnishing hay for the deer. In these leases the timber is reserved to the Crown.

The encroachments, or purprestures, consist chiefly of cottages built by poor people, and small parcels of land adjoining. Some encroachments

* Now reduced to 587, by the falling in of the lease of New Park, as shown hereafter.

encroachments have, however, been made by the proprietors of neighbouring estates. These have been held without any rent or acknowledgment to the Crown: under the authority of a late Act of Parliament, the Crown is authorized to grant leases of the same for valuable considerations; and provision is made for preventing future encroachments.

The lands held with the Lodges, or the greatest part of them, which have been inclosed from time immemorial, are the entire property of the Crown, not subject to right of common, or any other claim.

The Forest lands, containing 63,845 acres, are also the property of the Crown, subject to certain rights of common, of pasture, pannage, and fuel, belonging to the proprietors of estates within or adjacent to the Forest; which rights, and those of the Crown, were defined and ascertained by the Act 9th and 10th of William III. for the increase and preservation of timber in this Forest.

By this Act, the Crown was empowered to inclose six thousand acres, "to remain in severalty in the actual possession of the Crown for ever, freed and discharged from all manner of right, title, and pretence, whatever, and to be called, made, and kept, a nursery for wood and timber only." The Crown was likewise empowered, so soon as the trees, in all or any part of such inclosures, should be past danger of being hurt by cattle or deer, to throw open the same, and inclose an equal quantity in any other part of the Forest; thus keeping six thousand acres constantly inclosed as a nursery for timber. The Crown has also a right to keep deer on the uninclosed part of the Forest at all times, without limitation. By this Act also, the rights of all parties were distinctly ascertained, and no hardship or injustice was done to the neighbouring inhabitants, or proprietors of estates; for while the bill was depending, a most attentive enquiry was made not only into the condition of the Forest generally, but into the rights as well of individuals, as into those of the Crown; the abuses which prevailed, and the means of remedying them; with which view different commissions of enquiry were issued to men of knowledge and consideration, to which full and distinct answers were returned:

 and

and it was not until after the fullest investigation on behalf of those who had claims on the Forest, that the Act was passed.

For local purposes, the New Forest is divided into nine bailiwicks, viz. Burley, Fritham, Godshill, Lynwood, Battramsley, South-East, the Nodes, Inn, and North. These bailiwicks are subdivided into fifteen walks, viz. Burley, Holmsley, Bolderwood, Eyeworth, Ashley, Broomy, Rhinefield, Wilverley, Whitley Ridge, Lady Cross, Denny and the Nodes, Ashurst, Ironshill, Castle Malwood, and Bramble Hill.

Its officers are a Lord Warden, Lieutenant, Riding Forester, Bow-bearer, two Rangers, Woodward, Under Woodward, four Verderers, High Steward, Under Steward, twelve Regarders, nine Foresters, or Master-keepers, being one to each bailiwick. And there have been usually fifteen Under Foresters, or Groom-keepers, one to each walk; but at present there are only thirteen, two of them being appointed to the keeper-ship of two walks each.

The Lord Warden is appointed by letters patent under the great seal, during his Majesty's pleasure. This officer has a general superintendence and command over the Forest in all matters relative to vert and venison; and appoints the Bow-bearer, Rangers, Steward, and all the Master-keepers and Groom-keepers to continue during his pleasure; except for the bailiwick of Burley, which has been in grant to the Bolton family for more than a century, by letters patent, renewed from time to time; and the walks of Bolderwood and Ironshill, of which grants have been very lately obtained for the lives of Prince William and Princess Sophia, the son and daughter of his Royal Highness the Duke of Glocester. There are granted to the Lord Warden, by his patent, the manor of Lyndhurst, and hundred of Redbridge, or New Forest Hundred, and the office of Keeper of the Decoy Ponds, with the herbage and pannage, and rents of free tenants: and he has also possession of the King's House at Lyndhurst, with an allowance of 70l. per annum for repairs; but that allowance has been for many years paid to the person appointed by the Lord Warden as housekeeper [illegible] King's House, and called the Lord Warden's Steward; and repairs are done at the charge of the Crown. The emoluments

ments arising to the Lord Warden, amount to 214l. and to his Steward 48l. besides the 70l. before-mentioned. This Steward is also a Regarder.

The Riding Forester is appointed by letters patent during his Majesty's pleasure. His office is to ride before the King when he goes into the Forest. His salary is 500l. per annum, with a fee buck and doe yearly.

The Bow-bearer is appointed by the Lord Warden during his pleasure. His duty is to attend the King with a bow and arrows, when in the Forest. His salary is 40s. per annum, with a fee buck and doe yearly.

The Rangers are appointed by the Lord Warden during pleasure. Their office is to drive the deer, which stray into the purlieus, back again into the Forest. The salary is 2l. 13s. 4d. per annum, and 4l. per annum in lieu of wood formerly allowed; and one fee buck and doe yearly to each Ranger.

The Woodward is appointed by letters patent from his Majesty during pleasure. He has 200l. per annum for himself, besides the salary of the deputy: and he also receives perquisites arising from the bark of timber assigned for repairs to the tenants of Lyndhurst manor, amounting to about 10l. per annum. The office of Woodward is at present wholly executed by the deputy, whose only duty has been to attend on the assigning of wood for fuel, to direct the digging of the moor-wood, (or roots of trees,) and to dispose of it, and take charge of windfall trees, and other trees or wood casually thrown down in the Forest. Such of those trees as are fit for the navy, are delivered to the Purveyor, to be sent to the Dock-yard; and navy bills for the value are issued to the High Woodward: the rest are valued by the Regarders, and sold by the Deputy Woodward, who accounts to the High Woodward, who is accountable for the whole to the Crown. The Deputy Woodward, besides a salary of 50l. has perquisites to the amount of about 13l. 12s. 0d. and an assignment of four loads of fuel-wood. The present Deputy Woodward is a Regarder.

The Verderers, who are the Judges of the Swanimote and Attachment Courts, are chosen by the freeholders of the county, by

virtue of the King's writ. They have no salary, nor any emolument or perquisite, besides a fee buck and fee doe yearly.

The High Steward is appointed by the Lord Warden during pleasure; has no salary or perquisites, except an old annual fee of five guineas, paid by the Lord Warden. This office may be considered as a sinecure.

The Under Steward is also appointed by the Lord Warden during pleasure. His duty is to attend at, and enroll the proceedings of, the Courts of Attachment and Swainmote. He also holds the court leet for Redbridge or New Forest hundred, and the courts baron for the manor of Lyndhurst. He has no salary: his emoluments depend, therefore, upon fees arising from the business of the courts, paid by individuals.

The Regarders are chosen by the freeholders of the county. Their business, as now executed, is to attend the marking of all trees to be felled, to value the timber to sale, and to attend the sales. The profits of their offices are confined to a fee of [illegible]s. 6d. per day when on actual duty, which (varying in proportion to attendance) amounts to about 10l. per annum.

The Master Keepers and Groom Keepers duty is to preserve the vert and venison in their respective bailwicks and walks, to prevent any destruction of either, and all encroachments on the Forest. The Master Keepers have no salary nor perquisites, except a fee buck and doe each annually.

The salary and perquisites of the Under Keepers, which, when the investigation was made by the parliamentary commissioners in 1789, arose chiefly from deer, brouze-wood, rabbits, and swine, amounted to from 100l. to 170l. a year, have been materially diminished since that time by the brouzing having been abolished by law; and the incomes of some of them will be further most essentially affected by the determination taken to destroy the rabbits entirely; for which, however, it is naturally expected some compensation will be made.

Besides these officers, there are two others, principally concerned in what relates to the timber; the Purveyor of the Navy, acting for

for this Forest, and the Surveyor General of the Woods and Forests.

The Purveyor is a naval appointment. His duty is to assign timber for the use of the navy, and to prevent any fit for naval use from being cut for other purposes. He is paid as an officer of the Dock-yard, and has no salary nor emolument from the Forest, except eight loads of fuel-wood yearly, worth about 4l. The present Purveyor is also a Regarder.

The Surveyor General of the Woods, &c. appoints a Deputy, whose office is to execute all warrants for felling timber for the navy, or for sale of wood and timber, or executing any other works in the Forest. The emoluments of the principal were, according to the report of the commissioners in 1789, 1l. 8s. 0d. per day (sundays excepted) for attendance and travelling expenses, during the execution of any work in the Forest; and five per cent. on all monies received by him on the amount of all estimates for buildings, repairs, &c. in the Forest, and on the amount of the sales of timber, wood, and bark, together with 2s. per tree, as chip-money, for all naval trees. But these are since abolished, as well in this Forest as in all others; and he has now a salary of 3000l. a year, in lieu of the whole.

The Surveyor General's Deputy in this Forest has a salary of 50l. per annum, and takes as perquisites, the old posts, pales, and rails, left on repairing the fences; five shillings a year from each of the Regarders; and one shilling per lot for every lot of timber, wood, and bark, sold in the Forest, which is paid by the purchasers. The present Deputy Surveyor is also a Regarder.

The only object of real importance to the public in any of the forests, is the increase and preservation of the timber. How far that has been attended to in the management of the New Forest, will appear on a slight consideration as to the nature of the offices, and of the manner in which they were executed. The Master Keepers seem to have considered their appointments rather as marks of distinction, than as offices of responsibility or business. The Surveyor's attention was chiefly directed to the execution of warrants from the Treasury, for raising and laying out money.

The

The Woodward, acting by deputy, confined himself to the inferior objects of fuel-wood, repair timber, windfall trees, and moor-wood. The Regarders were only called in occasionally for particular purposes; and several of them held other offices, incompatible with that of Regarder. The business of Purveyor was principally to prevent trees fit for the navy from being applied to any other use. The protection of the inclosures, and the preservation of the young wood and timber, must, therefore, have depended chiefly, if not altogether, on the conduct of the Groom-Keepers.

Under these circumstances, the greatest care should have been taken to allow no perquisite to those men, that could make it for their interest to do any thing that might be prejudicial to the forest; or to lead them to counteract the great public object of increasing and preserving the wood and timber: but if a keeper had performed his duty in every particular necessary for promoting that object, he would have lost a great part of his emoluments, which arose chiefly from fees for deer, profits by sale of brouze-wood, and by the breed of rabbits and swine. The mode of rewarding even the Surveyor General and Woodward, and their deputies, held out strong inducements to promote the profuse felling of the timber, but none for its increase and preservation.

The commissioners, in their reports of 1789, observe, that this mode of paying those who have the care of this valuable Forest, is certainly such as no man would adopt in the management of his own property; and that the effects of it upon the Forest appear to have been as follows.

I. That it was so much overstocked with deer, that many died yearly of want in the winter; and not less than 300 died in one walk only in the winter of 1787.

II. That great waste and destruction was made of the hollies and thorns which afforded the best nursery and protection for young trees: and much more wood, and of a larger size than was necessary or proper for brousing, was cut by the keepers under that pretence, to increase their own profits.

III. That the breed of rabbits was encouraged by several of the keepers, but particularly in the two walks of Wilverley and Rhinefield, where three inclosures, made for the growth of timber, had

 been

been converted into warrens by the under keepers, insomuch that in two of them, containing about 611 acres, there was not one young tree; and in the third, containing 224 acres, only a very small number.

IV. That some of the keepers dealt largely in swine, which were suffered to remain in the Forest at all seasons.

V. That the fences of the inclosures made for nurseries of timber, were neglected; and, for want of repairing slight defects when they happened, often required large and expensive repairs; but were in general in such bad condition, as to keep out neither deer, horses, cattle, nor swine.

VI. That the lodges were repaired often, and at great charge, but never substantially, or in a workman-like manner.

VII. That the salutary provisions of the act of the 9th and 10th of William III. were almost wholly disregarded in many other respects.

The different surveys taken in 1608, 1707, 1764, and 1783, (the particulars of which are stated in the reports of the commissioners before alluded to,) not only shew the quantity of timber in the Forest at the times when they were taken, but afford the strongest proof of the opposite effects of the attention formerly bestowed on the management of the Royal Forests, and of the neglect and relaxation which took place at subsequent periods. This neglect appears to have arisen from a concurrence of various causes. When the first of these surveys was made, the landed property of the Crown was the chief fund at the disposal of government: great attention was therefore given to it; and though the Forest laws were liable to many objections, yet that system was better calculated for the protection of the Forests, than the customs which have since obtained.

The attention bestowed on the Forests was suspended by the contest between Charles the First and his Parliament; during the continuance of which, the trees in almost every one of the Royal Forests were, by one party or the other, disposed of or destroyed.*

Soon

* The same has happened in France, and to an immense extent; the effects of which must soon be felt, both with respect to building, to fuel, and to the navy.

Soon after the Restoration, the attention of Government was again directed to the Forests; which is evinced by various Reports and Commissions of Enquiry: but though, by means of that attention, the abuses in the New Forest received some check, yet, as the greatest part of the trees had been felled, the fences of the ancient coppices destroyed, and the deer and cattle every where admitted, it was found impossible to restore the Forest to its former condition without the aid of Parliament.

The act of 9th and 10th William III. was accordingly obtained; and if the powers vested in the Crown had been duly exercised, 30,000 acres of land, formerly bare, might now have been covered with trees from one hundred years of age downward, in addition to the former woodlands in the Forest. But unfortunately, in a very few years after passing that act, the care formerly bestowed on the Forests was discontinued; the superintendance of the Surveyor General of the Crown Lands ceased; and the whole fell, by degrees, under the sole direction of a Surveyor General of the Woods, a single officer, under no effectual check or controul, receiving no official books nor records from his predecessors, nor obliged to leave any to those who succeeded him; so that no regular system of management could have been expected or practised: each new surveyor entered on his office without direction or precedent, and adopted such new plan as suited his fancy or convenience.

This defective system, however, has lately been much improved, but has not been entirely amended. An attempt was, indeed, made to carry into effect, by a bill, all the important suggestions of the parliamentary Commissioners a few years after their final report was made: this passed the House of Commons without opposition, but was lost in its last stage in the House of Lords, in a very late period of the session, on a petition of three or four respectable individuals, having rights, on the Forest and estates in its neighbourhood.

This having failed, another bill, respecting this Forest, was brought in, and passed, in the year 1800; from which it is presumed considerable benefits may be derived. Brousing or feeding the deer with the young branches of the trees, (under color of which great

great abuses were committed, as already stated,) is entirely put a stop to; the limits of the Forest are ascertained with accuracy, and disputed boundaries are settled. The Forest Courts are now regularly held by the Verderers, who preside in them, and who are vested with new and extended authorities, under the act for preventing waste as well as encroachments: and it is understood to be intended, that immediate and effectual means shall be taken for the entire destruction of the rabbits (the greatest of all enemies to the growth of woods) with which at present the Forest is, in many parts of it, over-run. An arrangement has also been made, not only for substituting a fixed salary, as already observed, for the Surveyor General, in lieu of the fees he formerly had, and which operated as a bounty on the destruction of timber; but likewise for establishing a fixed office for him, wherein all books and papers are to be preserved, and proceedings recorded. We may therefore hope that effectual measures will be taken as well for the preservation of the timber now growing, as for a future increase; and that this Forest will become, what it ought to have been long ago, a source of national defence, by furnishing an abundant, instead of a very scanty supply, of timber for our navy.

The quantity of timber actually delivered for naval purposes, from the year 1761 to 1786, was 23,000 loads of oak, and 7003 loads of beech, as appears by the commissioners' reports in 1789: the average quantity, therefore, must be about 885 loads of oak, and 270 loads of beech. In the same reports it is also stated, that the number of deer killed annually, is about seventy-six brace of bucks, and seventeen brace of does; a few of which are sent to His Majesty's larder, and the great officers of the Crown; the remainder are distributed in fees to the forest officers, and to the proprietors of neighbouring estates, by way of compensation for the damage sustained by them from the deer trespassing on their lands.

The encroachments made on the Forest are always on its outskirts, or contiguous to some hamlet, where a hut can be raised, and a patch of ground inclosed for a garden, without any, or but little observation. These inclosures are frequently thrown down by the

Under

Under Keepers; but to remove a house, of which possession has been taken, requires a legal process; and the trespasser is therefore extremely assiduous in rearing his cottage, and getting into it. "I have known," observes Mr. Gilpin, when speaking of the New Forest, in his Remarks on Forest Scenery, "all the materials of one of these habitations brought together—the house built—covered in—the goods removed—a fire kindled—and the family in possession, in the course of a moon-light night."* Many of these little

* Vol. II. p. 39. The many advantages, continues this author, "which the Borderers on Forests enjoy, such as rearing cattle and hogs, obtaining fuel at an easy rate, and procuring little patches of land for the trouble of inclosing it, would add much, one should imagine, to the comfort of their lives: but, in fact, it is otherwise; these advantages procure them not half the enjoyments of common day-labourers. In general, they are an indolent race, poor and wretched in the extreme: instead of having the regular returns of a week's labour to subsist on, too many of them depend on the precarious supply of forest pilfer. Their ostensible business is commonly to cut furze, and carry it to the neighbouring brick-kilns; for which purpose they keep a team or two or three forest-horses; while their collateral support is deer-stealing, poaching, and purloining timber. In this last occupation they are said to have been so expert, that, in a night's time, they would have cut down, carried off, and lodged safely in the hands of some receiver, one of the largest oaks of the forest: but the depredations which have been made in timber along all the skirts of the forest, have rendered this species of theft, at present, but an unprofitable employment. In poaching, and deer-stealing, they often find their best account; in all the arts of which many of them are well practised. From their earliest youth they learn to set the trap, and the gin, for hares and pheasants; to insnare deer, by hanging hooks, baited with apples, from the boughs of trees; and (as they become bolder proficients) to watch the herd with fire-arms, and single out a fat buck, as he passes the place of their concealment.

"I had once some occasional intercourse with a Forest-borderer, who had formerly been a noted deer-stealer. He had often, like the deer-stealer in the play,

——— struck a doe,
And borne it cleanly by the keeper's nose.

Indeed,

little tenements have been so long occupied, and have passed through so many families, that they are now effectually secured as private property.

The *Scenery* of the New Forest affords as great a variety of beautiful landscape, perhaps, as can be met with in any part of England of similar extent. "Its woody scenes, its extended lawns, and vast sweeps of wild country, unlimited by artificial boundaries, together with its river views, and distant coasts, are all in a great degree magnificent. It must still, however, be remembered, that its chief characteristic, and what it rests on for distinction, is not *sublimity*, but *sylvan beauty*. Its lawns and woods are every where divided by large districts of heath: many of these woods have formerly been, as many of the heaths at present are, of vast extent; running several miles without interruption. Different parts too, both

Indeed, he had been at the head of his profession; and during a reign of five years, assured me he had killed, on an average, not fewer than a hundred bucks a year. At length he was obliged to abscond; but composing his affairs, he abjured his trade, and would speak of his former arts without reserve. He has oftener than once, confessed the sins of his youth to me; from which an idea may be formed of the mystery of deer-stealing, in its highest mode of perfection. In his excursions in the Forest, he carried with him a gun, which screwed into three parts, and which he could easily conceal in the lining of his coat. Thus armed, he would drink with the Under-Keepers without suspicion; and when he knew them engaged, would securely take his stand in some distant part, and mark his buck. When he had killed him, he would draw him aside into the bushes, and spend the remaining part of the day in a neighbouring tree, that he might be sure no spies were in the way. At night he secreted his plunder. He had boarded off a part of his cottage, (forming a rough door into it, like the rest of the partition, stuck full of false nail-heads,) with such artifice, that the keepers, on an information, have searched his house again and again, and have gone off satisfied with his innocence; though his secret larder, perhaps, at that very time, contained a brace of bucks. He had always, he said, a quick market for his venison; for the country is as ready to purchase it, as these fellows are to procure it. It is a forest adage of ancient date, *non est inquirendum unde venit venison.*" Ibid, p. 40—14.

both of the open and of the woody country, are so high as to command extensive distances; though no part can in any degree assume the title of mountainous."* Besides the heaths, lawns, and woods, of which the Forest is composed, there are in some parts extensive bogs; the most considerable of these is at the place called Longslade Bottom, in the road between Brokenhurst and Ringwood; it extends about three miles, and is the common receptacle of all the springs that rise in its vicinity.† The most interesting part of the Forest, in a picturesque point of view, is that confined between the Beaulieu River and the Bay of Southampton: the water views are very grand; and the banks, both of the River and the Bay, being richly decorated with woody scenery, give them a peculiarly beautiful character. In noble distances, and what may be more appropriately termed, grand forest scenes, the northern division of this tract is the most striking.

Though the *Horses* of the New Forest are in general private property, there is a diminutive breed, that exists in a wild state; and whose ideas of liberty are so unconfined, from pasturing in so wide a range that, to take them is frequently a business of great difficulty. Sometimes they are hunted down by horsemen, who relieve each other; and, at other times, caught with a rope and a noose. In the more desolate parts of the Forest, there is also a kind of wild *Hog*, which is very different from the usual Hampshire

* Remarks on Forest Scenery, Vol. II. p. 49, 52.

† In landscape, observes Mr. Gilpin, "the bog is of little prejudice: it has, in general, the appearance of common verdure; but the traveller must be upon his guard. These tracts of deceitful ground are often dangerous to such as leave the beaten roads, and traverse the paths of the Forest. A horse-track is not always the clue of security: it is, perhaps, only beaten by the little Forest-horse, which will venture into a bog in quest of better herbage; and his lightness secures him a place, where a larger horse, under the weight of a rider, would flounder. If the traveller, therefore, meet with a horse-path, pointing into a swamp, even though he should observe it to emerge on the opposite side, he had better relinquish it. The only track he can prudently follow, is that of wheels."

shire breed, and has many of the distinguishing characteristics of the wild boar. *Asses* and *Mules* are likewise bred in the Forest in great numbers.

The *Oaks* of the New Forest are mentioned, by Mr. Gilpin, as having a character peculiar to themselves. They seldom rise into lofty stems, he observes, as oaks usually do in richer soils; but their branches, which are more adapted to what the ship-builders call knees and elbows, are commonly twisted into the most picturesque forms. This peculiarity is supposed to arise from the roots having to pierce through a rocky stratum, or hard gravelly bed; which obliging them to take a zig-zag course, occasions their branches to assume a kind of correspondent direction. Many of these oaks are very ancient, and of great bulk.*

The

* To the many instances of the prodigious size which oaks attain, recorded in Evelyn's Sylva, and other works, may be added another from the New Forest. In Langley Wood, belonging to the Bishop of Salisbury, an *Oak* was felled in the year 1758, which had 300 rings of annual growth, and whose trunk was thirty-six feet in circumference just above the ground: it did not, however, exceed twenty feet in height; but was full six feet in diameter at top, and perfectly sound. Its massive branches, consisting principally of knees and crooks fit for naval purposes, extended nearly forty feet each way. This tree was felled in an unusual manner for the preservation of its crooks, which were cut off one by one whilst the tree was standing, and were lowered by tackling, to prevent their being injured. The two largest arms were sawn off at such distances from the trunk, as to form the most capital *first-rate* knees. Scaffolds were then erected; and two pit saws being braced together, the body was first cut across half through at the bottom, and then sawn down the middle, between the two stumps of arms that had been left: at the end of one stood a perpendicular bow, larger than most timber trees; to prevent this being injured, a bed of some hundreds of faggots was placed to break its fall. This half was so weighty, that it crushed a new timber carriage to pieces the instant it came upon it. The King's carriage was then sent purposely from Portsmouth, to assist in conveying it to the Dock-yard: it was drawn by twelve horses, occasionally aided by eight others, the shortest way to the sea-side; and was by sea conveyed to Portsmouth. This tree was, in the first place

sold

The CADENHAM OAK, so called from its being situated near the village of that name, is regarded as one of the curiosities of the New Forest, it having long been famous for its premature vegetation, its buds appearing every year in the depth of winter. The tree stands at a very short distance from the road, near a small inclosure, and in summer, has nothing to distinguish it from the surrounding oaks. After the buds have unfolded themselves, they make no further progress, as the leaves immediately shrink from the season, and die. During the remainder of the winter, the tree continues torpid, like other deciduous trees, but again vegetates at the usual season. The unusually early germination of this tree, like that of the Glastonbury thorn, is, by the superstition of the foresters, attributed to the influence of *Old* Christmas-Day; and it has certainly been ascertained, that in some years, the leaves have not appeared till the morning of that day:* it is, however, equally clear, that they have been known to shoot forth both earlier and later, according to the mildness or rigor of the season. It is supposed, that other oaks in this Forest have the same property of early germination, as the Cadenham tree is in so much repute, and "resorted to annually by so many visitants, that it could not easily supply them all, without some foreign contributions." The species of oak that has this property, is most probably the *Quercus sempervirens.*

Another celebrated *Oak* of this Forest, and noted also for its premature vegetation, was formerly standing at Canterton, near Stony Cross, a little to the north of Castle Malwood, and traditionally said to be the very tree against which the arrow glanced that was shot by Tyrrel, and caused the death of William Rufus. This

sold for 40l. it was next purchased by a Mr. White, of Anville, for 100l. and he is supposed to have cleared by it at least 100l. more; as the contents, in which were thirty-two loads, at half-a-crown per foot, (no unusual price for naval crooks,) amounted to 200l. The faggots were more than sufficient to defray incidental expenses.

* See Gilpin's Forest Scenery, Vol. II. p. 168, note; and Shaw's Western Tour, p. 486.

This tree had become so decayed and mutilated about sixty years ago, that the late Lord Delawar, to preserve the remembrance of the spot, had a triangular stone erected, about five feet high, and inscribed thus:

> Here stood the Oak-Tree, on which an Arrow, shot by Sir WALTER TYRRELL at a Stag, glanced, and struck King WILLIAM II. surnamed RUFUS, on the Breast, of which he instantly died, on the Second Day of August, anno 1100.
>
> King WILLIAM II. surnamed RUFUS, being slain, as before related, was laid in a Cart belonging to one Purkiss,* and drawn from hence to Winchester, and buried in the Cathedral Church of that City.
>
> Anno 1745.
>
> That where an Event so memorable had happened, might not be hereafter unknown, this Stone was set up by John, Lord Delawar, who had seen the Tree growing in this Place.

It must be observed, that the real circumstances attending the death of Rufus, are involved in some obscurity; as several of our early historians say not a word of any tree being accessory to his fall. Eadmer says only, that he was shot through the heart: Symeon Dunelmensis, and Hoveden, say, by an arrow incautiously directed, *sagitta incaute directa*. Matthew Paris, whose account is followed by Speed, is the first who affirms that the King's heart was pierced by an arrow obliquely glancing from a tree: "*Exiit ergo telum, et obstante arbore in obliquum reflexum faciens medium cordis regem sauciavit.*" Alanus de Insulis is quoted by Baxter, to prove that Tyrrel was engaged to shoot Rufus by Anselm, the Pope's

* His descendants, and of the same name, now live close to the spot in a neat cottage; and, according to the tradition of the country, have never been sufficiently rich to keep a complete team, nor poor enough to apply for parish relief, since the event thus commemorated.

Pope's Legate; and the deed itself is extolled by Alanus, who, in the reign of Henry the First, was promoted to the Divinity Chair at Paris, as *pulcherrimum facinus*.*

The spot where Rufus fell, is by Leland called *Thorougham*; but no place of that name is remembered. Mr. Gilpin imagines it might be what is now called Fritham, and which is at no great distance from the spot pointed out by tradition, as the scene of the King's death. "This is a sweet, sequestered bottom, open to the west, where the corner of a heath sinks gently into it; but sheltered on the east by a beechen grove, and on every other side by clumps of trees, forming an irregular screen around it; among which are several winding avenues of greensward."

The area of CASTLE MALWOOD contains many acres: some oaks and beeches grow on its banks, which are not very great: its Keep is occupied by one of the Lodges belonging to the Forest. CASTLE MALWOOD COTTAGE is the seat of A. Drummond, Esq. The situation is high, and the views from it are very extensive.

LYNDHURST, a small village, beautifully situated, has, from the era of the formation of the New Forest, been considered as a sort of capital to it; and here was exercised the jurisdiction of the Chief Justice in Eyre for this Forest, so long as he continued to exercise it, of which there is no trace subsequent to the reign of Charles the Second. All the Forest Courts under the jurisdiction of the Verderers, are still held here; as well those of Attachment, &c. as the Swainmote; the former are held on such days as the presiding Judges appoint, three times in a year; the latter, on the fourteenth of September annually. The *King's House*, in this village, though but an indifferent residence, is occupied by the Lord Warden whenever he visits the Forest. An ancient *Stirrup* is preserved here, said to have been used by William Rufus, at the time he was shot by Sir Walter Tyrrel. The *King's Stables* are very large, and were probably considered as magnificent when first erected, which appears to have been about the time of Charles the Second.

About one mile west from Lyndhurst is CUFFNELLS, the pleasant residence of the Right Honourable George Rose. Situated near the centre,

* Gough's Additions to the Britannia, Vol. I. p. 132.

centre of the New Forest, it possesses many peculiar advantages of scenery; and from its bold irregularity of surface being finely adorned by majestic oaks, and noble beech trees, composes some charming landscapes; which, whether contemplated in the fore-ground, in the middle distance, or in the more remote horizon, cannot fail to gratify the eye of taste. When the late Mr. Emes was called in to exercise his art of landscape gardening on this spot, he found that Nature had nearly superseded his intended operations, and was obliged to confine himself to a few plantations and walks in the vicinity of the House: these, however, are disposed with taste, and are creditable to his professional judgment.

The House stands on a rising ground, embosomed with trees, and is calculated more for internal convenience, and domestic comfort, than splendor. It was the property of the late Sir Thomas Tancred, of whose heirs this estate was purchased, about twenty years ago, by Mr. Rose, who has greatly embellished the place, and made very considerable additions to the Mansion. The south front* is formed by a Drawing-Room, thirty-six feet by twenty-four; the Library, forty-two feet by twenty-four; a handsome Vestibule, and the *Conservatory:* the latter is filled with a choice assemblage of indigenous and exotic plants; and, from its size and construction, is much admired. It communicates, by large folding doors, with the *Library*, which is supposed to contain one of the most valuable collections of books belonging to any private gentleman in the kingdom. They came into the possession of Mr. Rose from the late Earl of Marchmont, who died in 1792; and to whom Mr. Rose was sole executor. A whole length portrait of the Earl, in his robes, as worn at the Coronation, is intended to be placed over the chimney in this apartment. In the Drawing-Room is a half length of SARAH, Duchess of Marlborough, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; given, by her Grace, to the Earl, who was one of her executors. In this Mansion is also an original picture of WILLIAM THE THIRD, with whom Sir Patrick Hume, afterwards

 created

* This front, with the west end, and the fine grove of oaks that shelters and adorns the north side of the house, is represented in the annexed Print.

created Earl of Marchmont* by this Sovereign, returned to England; and a few other original portraits of intimate friends of the late Earl, who were remarkable as statesmen, or authors: among them

* The events in the life of this very zealous patriot, and eminent statesman, were various and extraordinary. From his first election into the Scotch Parliament, in the year 1665, he distinguished himself by an active and able opposition to the encroachments made on the liberties of his country, and for which he suffered close imprisonment under the oppressive government of that day. Obtaining his release, he retired to Holland, but returned to Scotland in the year 1685, with the Earl of Argyle, with whom, and others, he contended in arms against the forces of James the Second; but being unsuccessful, he sought refuge in the burial vault of his own Parish Church at Polwarth. Immured in this dismal recess, he continued more than two wintry months, deriving his whole nourishment from the hands of a faithful daughter. At length he effected his escape, sailed for France, and, to avoid detection, assumed the character of a travelling physician, in his journey to Bourdeaux, whence he proposed to embark for Holland, where he at length arrived, and experienced a most cordial reception from the Prince of Orange, with whom he returned to his native land in 1688. Preferment rapidly followed; he was created a peer, made Lieutenant Chancellor of Scotland, a Commissioner of the Treasury, &c. The late Earl of Marchmont, and last of this family, was no less eminent for his talents and patriotism than his grandfather, though, from the altered character of the times, they were manifested in a different manner. When Lord Polwarth, he was one of the most active, able and eloquent opponents to Sir Robert Walpole's administration. In this opposition, he ranked among his friends and partizans, Mr. Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham; Sir William Wyndham; Mr. Pulteney, afterwards Earl of Bath; Mr. afterwards Lord Lyttleton; and other eminent men. On the death of his father, he was raised to the House of Lords, where he was equally distinguished, and admired. To his persevering exertions (under the encouragement of his Majesty) the country is principally indebted for the publication of the Records of Parliament from the earliest period to his own time. His Lordship died in 1792. Mr. Pope, to whom he was executor, commemorated his name by an inscription in his own grotto at Twickenham; and Lord Cobham honored his bust with a niche in the "Temple of Friendship," at Stowe. *See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 299.*

them are those of POPE, by Richardson; LORD BOLINGBROKE; SIR WILLIAM WYNDHAM; and the late EARL OF CHATHAM. Mr. Rose has been honored by two visits from their Majesties, and the Royal Family, who spent a few days at Cuffnells in the years 1801, and 1804.

BROKENHURST, a very pleasant village, of Saxon origin, is recorded, in the Domesday Book, by the name of *Broceste*; and is there also said to have a *Church*, which edifice is yet standing, though somewhat disguised by subsequent alterations. The arch over the southern door-way is ornamented with the zig-zag moulding; and the descent into the Church, both at the south side, and the west end, is by several steps. The *Font* is a very antique and curious piece of workmanship; and was evidently formed when the custom of total immersion was prevalent. The site of the Church is an artificial bank of earth, between four and five feet high, and about fifty or sixty yards in diameter; this appears to have been raised, that the Church might become more conspicuous to the adjacent country; as the village lies in a bottom, and was, in ancient times, completely embosomed in wood. In the Church-Yard is a very old and venerable *Oak*, measuring upwards of eight yards in diameter: and also a noble *Yew-tree*, more than sixty feet high, and fifteen feet in girth. In the twelfth century, a carucate of land in Brokenhurst, was held, by an ancestor of Sir Henry Spelman, by the service "of finding an Esquire, with a hambergell, or coat of mail, for forty days in England; and of finding *Litter* for the *King's Bed*, and *Hay* for the King's *Palfrey*, when the King should lie at Brokenherst."

BROKENHURST HOUSE, the residence of Theophilus Foulks, Esq. is a handsome modern building, standing in a pleasant Park, and commanding a very grand and picturesque view, in which "both the fore-ground, and the distance, are complete. The former is an elevated Park scene, consisting of great variety of ground; well planted, and descending gently into the plain below. Among the trees which adorn it, are a few of the most venerable oaks of the Forest, probably of an age long prior to the Conquest. From this grand fore-ground is presented an extensive Forest

view. It consists of a wide range of flat pasturage, garnished with tufted clumps, and woody promontories shooting into it, and, contrasted by immense woods, which occupy all the rising grounds above it, and circle the horizon. The contrast between the open and woody parts of the distance, and the grandeur of each part, are in the highest style of picturesque beauty."* This estate is the property of the infant son of the late John Morant, Esq. WATCOMBE HOUSE, in Brokenhurst Park, was for three years the residence of the philanthropic *Howard*, whose memory is still cherished in the hearts of the poor inhabitants.

Over the heath called *Sway Common*, to the south-west of Brokenhurst, various TUMULI, or barrows, are scattered; several of which have been opened by the Rev. Mr. Warner, who supposes them to have been constructed about the time when the Britons, under Natanleod, or Ambrosius,† and the Saxons, under Cerdic, were contending for empire. This conjecture is strengthened by the circumstance of a rude earth-work on the Lymington river, being still called *Ambrose-Hole*, and by the historical evidence of several battles having been fought by Ambrosius in this part of the country.‡ Several of the barrows are situated within the area of an Entrenchment, on the brow of a hill, a few hundred yards to the south-east of a wood, called Setley-Wood. "Two of these," observes Mr. Warner,§ "probably cover the remains of chieftains, since considerable labor and care have evidently been exerted in their formation. They have each a regular fosse and vallum: the mound, or tumulus, is composed of a part of the earth taken from the fosse; another portion of it forms the surrounding vallum. It is evident that these barrows were raised at the same time, since they

* Gilpin on Forest Scenery, Vol. II, p. 63.

† Both Camden and Archbishop Usher, imagine Ambrosius and Natanleod to be the same person; the former being his Roman, and the latter his British name.

‡ Gough's Camden, Vol. I. p. 115.

§ Topographical Remarks, Vol. I. p. 72

they are connected together, and have only a single vallum at the point of their junction. I paced the fosse of each, and found the larger to measure 110 yards; the smaller ninety-five yards. A short distance to the south of these is another barrow, of a similar construction, and standing entirely alone. This, and one of the two connected with each other, I opened in company with the Rev. W. Jackson, Vicar of Christ-Church. Large quantities of burnt earth, and parcels of wood, reduced by fire to charcoal, were found in each; but, after searching with great attention, removing all the factitious earth, and digging to a considerable depth below the surface of the natural land, we were convinced that simply burning the body, and covering its ashes with mould, had been the mode observed in these instances of inhumation. These tumuli, then, I refer to the Saxons; and I think it will be allowed, I have authority for so doing, when it is considered, that the German tribes seldom, if ever, used *urn-burial*.*"

The other barrows, which lie about half a mile to the southward, and due west from the New Inn on the Lyndhurst road, Mr. Warner ascribes to the Britons. In two of them, which he opened, each about four feet high, and fifteen feet in diameter, the appearances were similar. They were both formed of a white gravel, mixed with loose sand; piercing through this to the depth of four feet, a quantity of black earth was found, which had evidently suffered the action of fire, and among it were large parcels of wood ashes. On removing this, and digging below the surface of the natural land, a cell, or excavation, was perceived, about two feet square, that had been formed in the bed of gravel which lies immediately under the surface, for the reception of an urn. In one of the barrows, the urn was in a perfect state, but was broken by the carelessness of a workman before it could be taken out. It was composed of unbaked clay; its form was very clumsy, and its workmanship rude. Within it were ashes, and small human bones, in a state of calcination, mixed with an earth of the texture and consistence of peat. The urn in the second barrow, which

 was

* Tacitus de Mor. Germ.—Lelandi Assertio Arturii, p. 44.

was situated in a more moist spot, had been resolved into its original clay.

About three quarters of a mile from Lymington, on the north, are the remains of a Roman Camp, called *Castle Field*, or more generally BUCKLAND RINGS; though very improperly, as the form is rectangular. "Its situation is on an elevated spot of ground, higher than any part of the surrounding country; enjoying a most extensive prospect. At the distance of 150 yards from its eastern extremity, flows the Lymington River, which the Camp overlooks and commands. Its form is a long square; and the dimensions of the *valla* and *fossæ*, accord precisely with those mentioned by Hyginus, Polybius, and Vigetius, as used by the Romans on similar occasions. Its four sides stood exactly east, west, north, and south; and on the three existing ones, (for the easternmost was purposely levelled about fifty years ago,) traces of the *portæ*, or entrances, are still to be discerned." The north, south and east sides of this Camp were defended by treble ditches and ramparts; on the west side, the works were only double. The area is about 800 yards in circumference. its length on the north side, 200 yards; its length on the south side, 210 yards; its breadth towards the west, 125 yards; its breadth towards the east, 135 yards. The perpendicular height of the inner vallum is about eight feet, measuring from the area; the breadth of the principal ditch, from the tops of the contiguous ramparts, is about forty yards. Only three sides of this Camp are now perfect, the other having been levelled between sixty and seventy years ago. This Camp is supposed to have been formed by Vespasian, about the period that he conquered the Isle of Wight. "The inquisitive eye," says Mr. Warner, "may still discern in a morass, which runs in a right angle from the western side of the river, nearly to the foot of the entrenchment, the traces of a cut, or dock, evidently connected with the work; which, though in the lapse of ages, it has been entirely choaked up, and converted into a swamp, yet probably was sufficiently deep, in Vespasian's time, to receive the largest of the Roman gallies."* About two miles to the south-east,

* Topographical Remarks, &c. Vol. I. p. 60.

east, on the opposite side of the river, is a high artificial mount, supposed to have been a *Speculum*, or Watch Tower, to this Camp; and commanding a very extensive view over the Isle of Wight, the Channel, and the adjacent country.

LYMINGTON,

A SMALL market town, of remote but unknown origin, is situated on the declivity of a gently-rising ground, on the western bank of the Lymington River, about a mile from its confluence with the Sea. From a consideration of local circumstances, Mr. Warner imagines that a town or village was formed near this spot by the Britons.* That the Romans were acquainted with it is evinced, by the contiguity of Buckland Rings, and by the evidence of Roman coins, nearly 200 pounds weight of which, of the Lower Empire, were discovered here in two urns, in the year 1744. A brass coin of Tetricus, sen. Rev. LAETITIA AVGG. found hereabouts, is also mentioned by Mr. Gough, as being in his own possession.†

In the Domesday Book, Lymington occurs under the name of *Lentune*. When that survey was taken, the manor belonged to Rogerius, or Roger de Yvery, the founder of the illustrious house of Yvery, who had accompanied the Conqueror to England. Roger, his son, was a soldier of considerable talent; but having joined in an unsuccessful insurrection against William Rufus, he was obliged to quit the kingdom; and his possessions escheated to the Crown. In the reign of Henry the First, Lymington, together with the Lordship of the Isle of Wight, the borough of Christ Church, and other lands in this county, were granted to Richard de Reparii̇s, or Redvers, a powerful and opulent Baron, who had been a steady adherent to the fortune of that Monarch. In this family it continued till the reign of Edward the Second, when it was released to that King by Isabella de Fortibus, the heiress, together

* Topographical Remarks on Hampshire, Vol. I.

† Additions to Camden, Vol. I.

together with the Lordship of the Isle of Wight, and all her other possessions in Hampshire. The validity of the deed was questioned by the next heir, Hugh de Courtney, Baron of Oakhampton; but his claim was annulled by the Parliament. This manor, however, appears to have been afterwards returned to the Baron, as it was numbered with his other estates at the period of his decease. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, it again fell to the Crown, on the decapitation of Henry Courtney, Earl of Devonshire.

Very few local events are recorded of this town; though tradition affirms, that it has been *thrice* burnt by the French; and saved only a fourth time* from undergoing the like fate, by the prudent conduct and fortitude of a woman. The distinctive epithets, *Old* and *New*, applied to different parts of the town, appear, in a certain degree, to countenance these popular relations.

Whatever may be the antiquity of Lymington, it does not seem to have attained any considerable importance, till it became the property of Baron de Redvers; when a "port being established, the wines of France, and other foreign commodities, were unshipped at its quays."† It also became famous for its SALT WORKS;‡ though this manufacture is, with great probability, supposed to have been carried on here at a much earlier period, and probably by the Britons; as large quantities of wood ashes have often been found near the site of the present works;§ which are situated on the borders of the Sea-shore, at a little distance from the town, and extend nearly three miles in a south-west direction.

Here

* Warner's Topographical Remarks, Vol. I. p. 34.

† Warner, from Rot. Parl. 3 Edward I.

‡ In the year 1145, a tithe of the salt manufactured at Lymington, was granted, by Richard de Redvers, to the Abbey of Quarre, in the Isle of Wight.

§ The British method of obtaining salt, as appears from Strabo, L. IV. p. 197, was to set fire to a number of trees, heaped together, and when the mass was reduced to charcoal, to pour on it a certain quantity of sea-water, which produced a concretion somewhat similar to salt.

Here is still the most considerable manufacture of *marine* salt (so called from its being made of sea-water) of any upon this coast. The process of making the salt is very simple. The water is pumped, by means of wind-mills, into large ponds close to the shore, which communicate with several smaller, of a square form, shaped with great exactness, three to four inches in depth, and forty to fifty feet broad. The water is let into these ponds (or brine-pans) during the summer months, and remains exposed to the sun four or five days, which causing a considerable evaporation, it becomes a strong saline liquor, of a bitter taste, denominated *brine;* this is conveyed into wooden cisterns, or tanks, adjoining the work, or building, in which are commonly from two to six iron pans, (often more,) of a square form, eight inches deep, and eighteen feet in breadth, for the purpose of boiling the brine; by which simple operation (with the aid of a small quantity of seasoning, composed chiefly of butter) it becomes in the course of eight hours, a hard grained salt, fit for the table. When taken out of these boilers, it is put into wooden troughs to cool, having apertures in the bottom, through which drains a liquor called *bitters*, or *bittern*, from which the medicinal salts, Epsom and Glauber, are made during the winter season, when the stock of brine (which can only be procured in the summer) is exhausted. The fires for boiling the common salt, are lighted in the month of May, and are seldom put out till September.

The average quantity of common salt annually made during the last seven years, was five thousand tons, of which two thousand tons have been exported chiefly to America, and of medicinal salt, one hundred and forty tons. There are about forty works now standing, of which only *the half* are in use, giving employment to eighty men and boys. The whole is principally under the direction of Mr. St. Barbe. From the foregoing circumstance, it is obvious how much the manufacture has decreased: this has gradually taken place within the last thirty years. The cause of the diminution in the produce of this article, is occasioned by the manufacturer not being able to render it so cheap as the mineral salt generally used throughout the kingdom; and which arises

from

from the coal, of which fifty-four chaldrons are consumed in boiling one hundred tons of salt, being subject to a duty here, which is not paid by the manufacturer of mineral salt in the northern part of the kingdom, who receives the coal from the pit's mouth overland.

In regard to quality, the grain is larger and coarser than the mineral salt; but it possesses a much stronger saline property than the latter, and is therefore undoubtedly better calculated for the purpose of curing animal food. The intrinsic price, or value, of one bushel, is only one shilling before the duty is paid, which is ten shillings the bushel. The repeal of such a heavy tax upon this very necessary article, has been in contemplation; and it hardly admits a doubt, that such a measure would prove salutary, as tending to the relief and comfort of the poorer classes.

The *Church* at Lymington divides the *old* from the *new* part of the High Street; and though originally a regular pile, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a spire in the centre, is now become extremely informal, through different alteration. The only sepulchral memorials worth noticing, is a tablet surmounted with a fine bust, by Rysbrach, to the memory of CHARLES COLBORNE, Esq. who died in May, 1747; and a neat mural monument, with a bas-relief of shipping, by Bacon, in commemoration of JOSIAS ROGERS, Esq. who died in the year 1795, Captain of the Quebec frigate.

In the reign of Edward the Third, Lymington was summoned as a borough to send representatives to Parliament; yet it does not appear to have complied with this precept till the twenty-seventh of Elizabeth. In the reign of James the First, it was incorporated by charter, and from that period the returns have been regular. The right of election is vested in the Mayor and Burgesses: the number of voters is about eighty. The number of houses, as returned under the late Act, was 492; that of inhabitants, 2378.

The situation of Lymington on the banks of a navigable river, so nearly contiguous to the sea, is extremely favorable for its trade; but this advantage was formerly much greater than at pre-
as, by the injudicious construction of a dam, or causeway,

to the north of the town, the depth of the river has been considerably lessened, and its channel gradually contracted by the accumulation of mud deposited by the tides, and which had previously been carried off by the freshes. The causeway was made about seventy years ago, before which, vessels of upwards of 500 tons burthen could be brought up to the quay; though now the water will scarcely allow a vessel of 300 tons to be navigated to the same place.* The scenery on the banks of the Lymington river is very beautiful; and particularly so at full tides.

Between two and three miles to the north from Lymington, on the opposite bank of the river, is BOLDRE, an ancient village, recorded in the Domesday Book, by the name of *Bovreford*. The *Church* was in existence at the beginning of the twelfth century, and still displays some interesting specimens of its original architecture, though some parts of it have been altered at subsequent periods. The north aisle appears to have been added about the reign of King John:* in one of the windows are the arms of Lewis, the Dauphin of France, who had been invited into England during that troublesome reign; of William de Vernun, grandson to Richard de Redvers the Elder, and of some of the other Barons that favored the cause of Lewis, who quitted the kingdom, for which he

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. I. p. 219. Though the port of Lymington is subordinate to that of Southampton, it has still many privileges of its own. "As early as the second of Edward the Third, the *petty duties* were taken by the inhabitants on certain merchandizes brought to this port. The people of Southampton disputed their right to imposing and receiving duties. The question was tried, and the men of Lymington were cast. This was in 1329, Madox Firm. Burg. p. 220. Notwithstanding this decision against them, the men of Lymington, afterwards, were repeatedly guilty of the same offence, and as repeatedly paid for it: but at length, in the year 1730, having again taken the petty customs, and being sued for the same by the Mayor and Corporation of Southampton, the people of Lymington had the address to get the cause moved from the courts above to the county assize, where a jury from their own neighbourhood gave a verdict in their favor: and since this period the petty customs have been paid at Lymington." Ibid.

he had contended in arms, in so inglorious a manner, that history has not recorded the place of his embarkation; though tradition insinuates it was at Leap, a few miles to the eastward of Lymington.* The Church is finely situated on an eminence to the north of the village, and commands a variety of pleasing views. The REV. WILLIAM GILPIN,† the late exemplary and celebrated Vicar of this parish, founded two schools here, in the year 1791, for the instruction of twenty boys, and an equal number of girls. The cost of the *School-House*, which is a plain brick building, was about 210l. the expense of instructing the children, is forty guineas annually. To provide a permanent fund to defray this charge, Mr. Gilpin appropriated the whole of his drawings and sketches, which he divided into eighty-nine lots; and since his decease, they have been sold by auction in London: the sum procured for them greatly exceeded the original estimate of their value. The regulations by which the schools are conducted are extremely judicious.‡ The *Poor-House* at Boldre is also on a respectable establishment, to the plan and execution of which, Mr. Gilpin very largely contributed. The Parsonage-House, at *Vicar's Hill*, overlooks a very wide extent of beautiful scenery.

WALHAMPTON, the seat of Sir Harry Burrard Neale, Bart. was given, by Richard de Redvers, to the Canons of Christchurch, who possessed it at the Dissolution, when Henry the Eighth granted it to Sir Thomas Wriothesley, afterwards Earl of Southampton; from whose descendants it came into the possession of the Earls of Arundel, and afterwards to the family of the present owner. The grounds were laid out about seventy years ago; and command some pleasing views of the Isle of Wight, and the intervening channel.

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. 1. p. 83.

† Author of the Remarks on Forest Scenery, and several other admired Publications on Picturesque Beauty, as well as an Essay on Prints, the Lives of several Reformers, and other Works.

‡ See Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. where very particular accounts are given of the management both of the Schools, and of the Poor-House.

channel. A swamp, of about twelve acres, has been formed into a lake, the sides of which are well wooded, and its extremities concealed by plantations. Near Walhampton is NEWTOWN, formerly the property of the Mitfords, of this county, but now the seat of H. C. Plowden, Esq. who purchased it a few years ago. The Mansion is spacious and handsome: from a circular room at the top, is a very extensive and diversified view.

At BADDESLEY,* a chapelry to Boldre, was a PRECEPTORY of Knights Templars, founded about the latter end of the twelfth century, and, on the abolition of that order, granted, by Edward the Second, to the Knights Hospitallers. The site of the Preceptory is occupied by a small manorial Chapel, appertaining to an estate now belonging to Thomas Weld, Esq. of Lullworth Castle, Dorsetshire; but formerly to the Worsleys, of Appuldurcombe.

PILEWELL

* The history of the *Groaning Tree* of Baddesley, which became the subject of much conversation about half a century ago, is thus related by Mr. Gilpin. "A cottager, who lived near the centre of the village, heard frequently, a strange noise behind his house, like that of a person in extreme agony. Soon after, it caught the attention of his wife, who was then confined to her bed. She was a timorous woman, and being greatly alarmed, her husband endeavoured to persuade her, that the noise she heard was only the bellowing of the stags in the Forest. By degrees, however, the neighbours on all sides heard it; and the circumstance began to be much talked of. It was by this time plainly discovered, that the groaning noise proceeded from an *Elm*, which grew at the bottom of the garden. It was a young, vigorous tree, and, to all appearance, perfectly sound. In a few weeks the fame of the groaning tree was spread far and wide; and people from all parts flocked to hear it. Among others, it attracted the curiosity of the late Prince and Princess of Wales, who resided at that time, for the advantage of a sea-bath, at Pilewell, within a quarter of a mile of the groaning tree.

"Though the country people assigned many superstitious causes for this strange phenomenon, the naturalist could assign no physical one, that was in any degree satisfactory. Some thought it was owing to the twisting and friction of the roots; others thought that it proceeded from water, which had collected in the body of the tree; or, perhaps, from pent air; but no cause that was alledged appeared equal to the effect.

In

PILEWELL HOUSE "is a handsome family seat, beautifully situated, enjoying a fine view, that ranges from the Needles to Spithead. The south front is the most striking, consisting of an elegant suite of apartments. Its west wing is formed by the Library, a noble and well-proportioned room, stocked with a variety of choice books. An extensive lawn, belted by a shady walk, with occasional openings, stretches from the house to the sea-side."

At SOWLEY, a short distance to the eastward of Pilewell, is an extensive sheet of water, which covers nearly 140 acres of ground, and was formerly denominated *Fresh-water,* as appears by ancient charters, and considered as forming a boundary to the possessions of Beaulieu Abbey. It is in many parts extremely deep, and teems with excellent fish: its waters are now applied to turn the wheels of two large mills belonging to some iron-works.

About two miles from Sowley, and almost close to the sea-shore, is PARK FARM, anciently one of the *Granges* belonging to the Monks of Beaulieu. Its situation is extremely pleasing, as it lies embosomed in fine woods, through which occasional views are admitted of the Isle of Wight, and the neighbouring Channel. The granges, or farms, appertaining to Beaulieu Abbey, had the privilege of having divine service celebrated in them, by a bull granted

In the mean time, the tree did not always groan; sometimes disappointing its visitants; yet no cause could be assigned for its temporary cessations, either from seasons, or weather. If any difference was observed, it was thought to groan least when the weather was wet; and most when it was clear and frosty; but the sound at all times seemed to come from the roots.

"Thus the groaning tree continued an object of astonishment, during the space of eighteen or twenty months, to all the country around; and for the information of distant parts, a pamphlet was drawn up, containing a particular account of all the circumstances relating to it. At length, the owner of it, a gentleman of the name of Forbes, making too rash an experiment to discover the cause, bored a hole in its trunk. After this it never groaned. It was then rooted up, with a further view to make a discovery; but still nothing appeared which led to any investigation of the cause. It was universally, however, believed, that there was no trick in the affair; but that some natural cause really existed, though never understood." *Remarks on Forest Scenery, Vol. I. p.* 163, 164.

granted by Pope Alexander the First. The *Chapel* of Park Grange is yet standing, though much dilapidated: it unites at the south-east end with the Farm House, a massive stone building, of equal antiquity. The length of the Chapel is forty-two feet; its breadth about fourteen: the interior is divided into two apartments by a stone screen, which reaches to the roof. The floor of the altar part is elevated about six inches: in the south wall is a niche, where the pix and crucifix were placed. In each division of the Chapel, the vaulting is supported by four plain ribs, which unite in a rose at the centre. The interior part is lighted by three pointed windows: the anti-chapel has only two lancet lights at the south-west extremity.*

At a short distance from Park Farm, on the road to Beaulieu, are the ruins of the Barn and Chapel of ST. LEONARD'S, anciently the principal Grange belonging to Beaulieu Abbey. The *Barn* was of great magnitude, its length measuring 226 feet; its breadth, seventy-seven; and its height, upwards of sixty feet: within the end walls, is a barn of considerable size, that has been constructed with the old materials. The remains of the Chapel evince it to have once been extremely beautiful; but its original splendor is nearly obscured, from the ruin having been long applied "to the ignoble purposes of a goose-house and a hog-stye." At the east end, on each side the altar-piece, is an elegant niche, "adorned with lateral pinnacles, richly embossed, and a sara-cenic arch, crowned with a cross."†

In a beautiful valley, on the banks of the Beaulieu River, or Boldre Water, is BUCKLER'S-HARD,‡ a populous village, principally inhabited by workmen employed in ship-building. Many frigates and men of war have been built here, the situation being very convenient for the purpose, and the tide forming a fine bay at high water. Buckler's-Hard is included in the extensive manor of Beaulieu; and here, previously to the peace of 1748, John,

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. I. p. 233. † Ibid, 235.

‡ The word *Hard* signifies a firm causeway, made upon the mud, for the purpose of landing.

second Duke of Montague, the then proprietor, proposed to establish a town, to be called after his own title, intending it as a depository and refining-place for sugars brought from the Island of St. Lucia, in the West Indies, of which, also, he was then owner. St. Lucia being declared neutral at the peace, the Duke's property there was lost; and the projected building of the town was, in consequence, relinquished; though its limits had been fixed, and the streets marked out.

The ruins of BEAULIEU ABBEY are beautifully situated about three miles above Buckler's-Hard, on the eastern banks of the river, over which is an old wooden bridge, that communicates with the village of *Beaulieu*. The delightful valley that surrounds these venerable remains is of a circular form, bounded by well-wooded hills, and in itself consists of a rich variety of ground. The original name of Beaulieu was *Bellus-Locus*, or Fine-Place; a term expressive of the situation; and which, indeed, is still preserved in its present name. The trade of the village is principally confined to a manufacture of coarse sacking. The river is navigable to the bridge for vessels of fifty tons burthen.

BEAULIEU ABBEY was founded in the year 1204, by King John, for Monks of the Cistercian Order; a class of religious to which that Monarch had previously been particularly adverse. The motives which impelled him to this act of piety, as it was denominated by the superstition of the age, being difficult to be assigned from any of his known principles of conduct, have furnished the Monks with an opportunity of resorting to the convenient system of miraculous interposition. In the outset of their legend, they observe, that the King, after various oppressive measures exercised against the Cistercians, summoned the Abbots and principals of that order to Lincoln, whither they hastened, flattering themselves that he would there confer upon them some marks of his grace and favor. Instead of this, the historians continue, "the savage Monarch ordered the Abbots to be trodden to death by horses: but none of his attendants being found sufficiently cruel to obey the sanguinary command, the ecclesiastics, dreadfully alarmed, retired hastily to their inn. In the course of the ensuing night,

when

when the Monarch slumbered on his bed, he dreamt that he was standing before a Judge, accompanied by the Cistercian Abbots, who were commanded to scourge him severely with rods and thongs; and when he awoke in the morning, he declared that he still felt the smart of the beating. On relating this dream to a certain ecclesiastic of his court, he was advised to crave pardon of the Abbots, whom he had before so barbarously treated; and assured that the Almighty had been infinitely merciful to him, in thus revealing the mysteries of his dispensations, and affording him paternal correction. The King, adopting this counsel, ordered the Abbots to attend him, and, contrary to their expectations, received them with kindness;"* and the remembrance of his dream still continuing to influence his conduct, he shortly after granted a charter for the foundation of the Abbey.

The endowments bestowed by John were very great; and, in addition to various important privileges and immunities, he ordered a payment to be made of 100 marks, towards the erection of the monastic buildings, which were raised on such a magnificent scale, that, notwithstanding numerous pious donations made during the time of carrying on the works, as well as assistance derived from various other sources, the sum of 4000 marks remained undischarged on their completion: this debt the Monks were enabled to defray, by a grant of the impropriation of the Church and Chapel of Cokewell, in Berkshire. Henry the Third confirmed all the benefactions of his predecessor, John, and invested the Monks with the liberty of free-warren throughout their manor of Farendon, in Berkshire, which the latter King had bestowed on them, together with the privileges of holding fairs and markets therein on stated days. Edward the Third confirmed all the preceding grants; and, in the twentieth of his reign, ordered a tun of prisage wine to be delivered to the Monks annually for the celebration of mass. About this period, the Abbey was received under the especial protection of Pope Innocent, who invested it with the privilege of sanctuary, exempted it from the payment of tithes, and conferred various rights

* Mon. Ang. Tom. I. p. 926; et Appendix, No. II.

rights upon its members. That the Abbot had the power of sitting in Parliament, is asserted by tradition; but this report has not been corroborated by reference to any historical document. On the Dissolution, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, the possessions of the Abbey were, according to Dugdale, estimated at the annual value of 326l. 13s. 2d. but according to Speed, at that of 428l. 6s. 8d. In the following year, the manor of Beaulieu, with all its rights, privileges, and appurtenances, (the rectory, and right of patronage, excepted,) was granted to Thomas Wriothesley, Esq. afterwards Earl of Southampton. This grant was confirmed by James the First, to Henry, Earl of Southampton; and the patronage of the Parish Church, together with the rectory of Beaulieu, was again vested in its Lords. In the reign of William the Third, this estate became the property of Ralph, Lord Montague, afterwards created Duke of Montague, by marriage with the heiress of the Wriothesleys. His son, John, second Duke of Montague, transmitted it to his daughters, Isabella and Mary, from whom, by intermarriages, the manor has descended to the Lord Beaulieu, and the Duke of Buccleugh.* The circumference of the manor embraces an extent of twenty-eight miles, and the clear annual revenue amounts to between 4000 and 5000l.

The immediate precincts of the Abbey were encircled by a stone wall, which in several places remains nearly entire, and is richly mantled with ivy; its circumference is about a mile and a quarter: the entrance is by an ancient stone *Gateway*. Proceeding onward, the first object that attracts particular attention, is an edifice, nearly of a square form, now called the Palace, but originally built for the *Abbot's Lodging*, and converted into a family seat after the Dissolution. Over the entrance is a canopied niche, in which stood the image of the Virgin Mary, to whom the Abbey was dedicated. The Hall is a well-proportioned room, handsomely vaulted, the ribs springing from pilasters, and spreading over the roof in beautiful ramifications. Eastward from this edifice is a long building, supposed, from the extent and height of the apartments,

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. I. p. 292, 293.

ments, to have been the *Dormitory:* beneath it are several good cellars. The ancient *Kitchen* is also standing; and near it is the *Refectory*, a plain stone edifice, with strong buttresses: this is now the Parish Church of Beaulieu; the Abbey Church, which stood to the north-east, having been entirely destroyed. The roof is curiously raftered with oak; the intersections of the ribs being embossed with rude sculptures of angels with shields, abbots' heads, and other figures. On the west side, elevated about twelve feet above the floor, is the ancient rostrum, or pulpit, from which lectures were read when the monks were assembled at their meals below. The ascent into it is by a flight of stone steps, curiously arched and ribbed over head, and enlightened by pointed apertures: its form is demi-octagonal.

The site of the Abbey Church may be traced by the unevenness of the ground; but not a vestige of the building is remaining. Fragments of demolished tombs are occasionally dug up here, this having been the burial-place of various illustrious personages; and among them, of Queen Eleanor, mother of King John. Some traces of the *Cloisters* are yet distinguishable, round an area of about a quarter of an acre, now converted into a garden, on the west side of which is a *Gateway*, with rich mouldings, pillars, and capitals. Behind the garden, are ruins of some of the offices of the Monastery, and particularly of the apartment in which the monks manufactured their wine. Some fields to the north of this building, spreading along a gentle declivity, with a southern aspect, still bear the name of the *Vineyards*.* Several of the fish-ponds, belonging to this Monastery, are yet entire, and abound in fish.

During the period that Beaulieu Abbey was invested with the privilege of a sanctuary, its walls afforded a temporary protection to Margaret of Anjou, the courageous Queen of Henry the Sixth, who, returning from the Continent in full expectation of being reinstated in her former dignity, was, on her arrival at Weymouth,

 informed

* See Warner's Remarks, Vol. I. in which are various proofs of the vine having been cultivated in this country.

informed of the imprisonment of her husband, the destruction of his army, the death of the Earl of Warwick, and the elevation to the throne of her mortal enemy, Edward the Fourth. On this occasion, her intrepid spirit bent beneath the pressure of accumulated woe; and, with her youthful son, she sought refuge within the friendly walls of Beaulieu, where, soon afterwards, the presence of the Earl of Devon, and some other faithful adherents, caused her to re-assume her fortitude, and again prepare for active exertion. Another celebrated fugitive, to whom the Abbey of Beaulieu afforded sanctuary, was Perkin Warbeck, whose real origin has been a theme of much argument, and is yet, perhaps, a subject for future historians completely to develope. Having landed in the west of England, and received a check before the gates of Exeter, he fled to this asylum, where he continued some time; though every chance of escape was precluded by the conduct of Lord Daubeney, who invested the place with 300 men. At length, the promises of the King, Henry the Seventh, allured him from his retreat; and, after the publication of an actual, or pretended, confession of imposture, he was committed prisoner to the Tower. Shortly afterwards, on a charge of treasonable practices, he was condemned to die, and was executed at Tyburn, in the year 1499.

Near the mouth of the Beaulieu-river, and village of Exbury, is EXBURY HOUSE, the seat of Colonel Mitford, author of the History of Greece, by whose judicious alterations the grounds of this estate have been greatly improved; the views are in many parts extremely fine: this demesne is about eight miles in circumference.

LEAP, a small hamlet on the sea shore, inhabited by fishermen, is the common place of embarkation from this part of Hampshire to the Isle of Wight, it lying nearly opposite to Cowes. On this coast, observes Mr. Gilpin, "fowling and fishing are commonly the employments of the same person. He who in summer, with his line or his net, plies the shores, when they are overflowed by the tide, in winter, with his gun, as the evening draws on, runs up in his boat among the creeks and crannies, which the tide leaves in the mud lands, and there lies in patient expectation of his prey,"

As the coast between this portion of the county and the Isle of Wight, is of a peculiar description, consisting, when the tide ebbs, of vast muddy flats, covered with green sea-weed, the fowler has here an opportunity of practising arts which can only be pursued in similar situations, and which require the exertion of considerable fortitude. The sea-fowl commonly feed by night; and as they advance in all their multitudes to graze on the savannas of the shore, the fowler attentively listens to their noise, which, when on the wing, bears resemblance to the full cry of a pack of hounds. Should they alight at some place at too great a distance for his gun, though of the longest barrel, to reach them, and his situation put it out of his power to edge his boat along some winding creek, he despairs of success that night; but if he discovers them within the range of his piece, or pieces, for he is generally doubly armed, he prepares to fire. As his prey feed in silence, his aim can only be governed by the indistinct noises which arise among so large a host; he directs his first piece, therefore, as well as he can, towards the sound, and instantly catching up his other gun, discharges it towards the spot where he supposes the flock to rise on the wing. His gains for the night are now decided; and he has only to gather his harvest. He immediately puts on his mud-pattens, which are flat pieces of board, worn to prevent his sinking in the mud, and goes groping about in the dark in quest of his booty; picking up perhaps a dozen, and perhaps not one.—" So hardly does the poor fowler earn a few shillings, exposed, in an open boat, during a solitary winter night, to the weather as it comes, rain, hail, or snow; on a bleak coast, a league perhaps from the beach; and often in danger, without great care, of being fixed in the mud, where he would become an inevitable prey to the returning tide."* Great quantities of wild duck, and widgeon,

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* Gilpin's Forest Scenery, Vol. II. p. 191—193. "I have heard," continues this author, from whose account the above particulars are selected, "of an unhappy fowler, whom this hazardous occupation led into the greatest distress, and that too in the day-time, which shows the double danger of such expeditions in the night. Mounted on his mud-pattens,

are bred in the rushes and sedges of a small creek eastward of Leap, and in the covers of the various little rough islands that rise on its surface. Proceeding

pattens, he was traversing one of these mud-land plains in quest of ducks, and being intent only on his game, he suddenly found that the waters, which had been brought forward with uncommon rapidity by some peculiar circumstances of tide and current, had made an alarming progress around him. Incumbered as his feet were, he could not exert much expedition; but to whatever part he ran, he found himself completely invested by the tide. In this uncomfortable situation, a thought struck him, and, as the only hope of safety, he retired to that part of the plain which seemed the highest, from its being yet uncovered by water; here, striking the barrel of his gun (which, for the purpose of shooting wild-fowl, was very long) deep into the mud, he resolved to hold fast by it, as a support, as well as security, against the waves; and to wait the ebbing of the tide. A common tide, he had reason to believe, would not, in that place, have reached above his middle; but as this was a spring-tide, and brought in with so strong a current, he durst hardly expect so favorable a conclusion. In the mean time, the water making a rapid advance, had now reached him. It covered the ground on which he stood—it rippled over his feet—it gained his knees—his waist—button after button was swallowed up—till at length it advanced over his very shoulders. With a palpitating heart, he gave himself up for lost; still, however, he held fast by his anchor. His eye was eagerly in search of some boat, which might accidentally take its course that way, but none appeared. A solitary head floating on the water, and that sometimes covered by a wave, was no object to be descried from the shore, at the distance of half a league; nor could he exert any sounds of distress that could be heard so far.—While he was thus making up his mind, as the exigence would allow, to the terrors of destruction, his attention was called to a new object. He thought he saw the uppermost button of his coat begin to appear. No mariner floating on a wreck, could behold a cape at sea with greater transport, than he did the uppermost button of his coat; but the fluctuation of the water was such, and the turn of the tide so slow, that it was yet some time before he durst venture to assure himself, that the button was fairly above the level of the flood. At length, however, a second button appearing at intervals, his sensations may rather be conceived than described; and his joy gave him spirits and resolution to support his uneasy situation four or five hours longer, till the waters had fairly retired."

Proceeding along the coast to the north-east, the eye is arrested by a whimsical kind of building, called EAGLEHURST; but more generally, *Luttrell's Folly*, from its having been erected by the Honorable Temple Luttrell. It was raised as a prospect-house, and occupies a very beautiful and commanding eminence, which has been formed into a terrace, and extends a considerable way along the beach: the sea-view is remarkably interesting. This edifice is in the form of a lofty tower, in which are the banqueting and sitting rooms; these apartments are fitted up in a very expensive and splendid style: the offices are detached. This estate is now the property of the Earl of Cavan.

About one mile from this edifice, on a singular tongue of land, which projects nearly half way across the Southampton Water, is CALSHOT CASTLE, a small fortress, constructed by Henry the Eighth, as a safeguard to Southampton Bay. It has still a garrison, though but ill-adapted for defence, and at present of very immaterial importance: the surrounding prospects are very fine.

CADLAND, the interesting seat of Robert Drummond, Esq. near the pleasant village of Fawley, includes an area about five miles in circumference, inclosed as a Park, and finely diversified by its irregular surface, and woodland scenery. The House is a plain, but commodious building, standing on a gentle eminence, near the banks of the Southampton Water. The grounds were laid out by Brown, and contain a great abundance of old and venerable timber.

At HYTHE, a beautiful little hamlet, that skirts the Southampton Water, is the ferry from this side to the town of Southampton, which lies immediately opposite to it on the north. The prospects from the adjacent eminence, are extensive, and extremely fine.

At DIBDEN, an ancient village, called Depe-dene in the Domesday Book, was a *Fishery* and a *Saltern*, at the time of making that survey. The *Church* is very old, but incommodious and mean: several of the *Lisle* family, of Moyle's Court, and Crux Easton, lie buried in this fabric. In the Church-yard is an immense yew-tree, the bole of which is about thirty feet round near the root. The trunk is hollow, but still sufficiently strong to

support

support three stems of very considerable size. About 140 acres of marsh and mud-lands, on the shore near Dibden, have lately been securely embanked, and cultivated at the expense of Lord Malmsbury, who possesses a large estate in this neighbourhood.

The manor of BURY-FARM, between three and four miles northward from Dibden, is the property of Sir Charles Mills, Bart. and is held by an ancient grant from the Crown, by the tenure of the possessor presenting the Sovereign with a pair of white greyhounds whenever he enters the New Forest. This custom was observed in the year 1789, when the late Rev. Sir Charles Mills presented his present Majesty with a couple of those animals, as he alighted from his carriage at Lyndhurst; the breed being purposely preserved by the family. The House is a modern building, erected on the site of an ancient mansion, in removing which, and in digging the foundations of the present one, a considerable number of Roman coins were discovered; most of them are still in the possession of Sir Charles.

ELING, called *Edlinges* in the Domesday Book, appears, from that record, to have been a place of some consequence, it having a Church, two mills, a fishery, and a saltern, at the period of making the Survey. In the reign of Edward the Confessor, the manor was held by the tenure of providing half a day's entertainment for the King, whenever he should pass that way. The *Church* has been enlarged at different periods, as appears from the variety in its architecture. In sinking a well in this parish, a few years ago, a quantity of fossil shells was discovered at the depth of thirty-six feet.

About two miles south-westward from Eling is the beautiful Forest-Lawn, called HOUND'S-DOWN, which to the eye appears of a circular form; but the skirts of the area are every where broken by grand screens of forest-wood, which give a dignity to the view but rarely equalled. This is regarded as one of the best pasture grounds in the New Forest; the herds of deer that are seen grazing on it in a summer evening, add greatly to the interest of the landscape.

Returning

Returning to the sea coast, in the neighbourhood of Lymington, one of the first objects that arrests attention, is HURST CASTLE, a fortress erected to defend this part of the Channel by Henry the Eighth, and consisting of a circular tower, strengthened by semicircular bastions. This Castle is situated near the extremity of an extraordinary natural causeway, or point of land, which runs two miles into the sea, in a south-east direction, and approaches the Isle of Wight within the distance of a mile. Compressed within these narrow limits, the tide rushes through the strait with redoubled force, and has deepened the channel to no less a depth than twenty-eight fathoms. The causeway itself, at high water, scarcely exceeds 200 yards in breadth, and is a steril length of beach, covered with loose gravel and pebbles. The side towards the Isle of Wight is a bold shore, beaten into ledges or terraces of pebbles, by the violence of the waves: the other side, which is sheltered, is undulating, marshy, and undermined; forming the water, when the tide flows, into a smooth land-locked bay.*

Within the dreary walls of Hurst Castle, Charles the First was confined for several days in December, 1648, the month immediately preceding that in which he was beheaded. Here also was imprisoned, during a period of thirty years, a Roman Catholic Priest, named Atkinson, who was condemned to perpetual confinement, for merely exercising the duties of his function. He died in October, 1729, at the age of seventy-four. The Castle has still a garrison; though, since the rise of Portsmouth, and the station of a fleet there, the works have generally been neglected.

Besides the curious situation of Hurst Castle, observes Mr. Gilpin,† "there is another peculiarity on this coast, which deserves notice. This is an Island called the SHINGLES, which sometimes rises fifteen or twenty feet above the water; and at other times, totally disappears. It shifts its situation also, rearing itself, at one time, nearer the Isle of Wight; and at another, nearer the coast of Hampshire: the mystery of it, is this. In that part of the channel lies a vast bank of pebbles, so near the surface, that it is beaten

* Gilpin's Forest Scenery, Vol. II, p. 89. † Ibid, p. 92.

beaten up into an Island by the raging of the sea, sometimes on one side, and sometimes on the other, as the tides and currents drive: from the same causes, also, all the prominent parts of it are easily dispersed, and the Island vanishes."

On the sea-coast, within the manors of MILFORD and HORDLE, traces of the ancient *Salinæ*, or *Salt-works*, may yet be discovered at very low ebbs of the tide. From the bold and lofty eminence, called Hordell or Hordwell Cliff, is a very grand view of the ocean, which here appears to compose a capacious bay; its eastern extremity being formed by the Isle of Wight, and its western point by Hengistbury Head. Hordle *Church* is mentioned in the Domesday Book, and parts of the structure appear to be as ancient as the reign of Edward the Confessor. A flat stone records the memory of Christopher Clark, some time Lord of this Manor, who died in 1720, at the great age of 112. The cliffs on this coast abound with fossil shells, a stratum of which is thought to range through the whole of the New Forest, in a north-eastern direction.

HIGH CLIFF obtained a considerable degree of popular celebrity from a sumptuous mansion erected here by the late Earl of Bute, for the advantage of the sea air, and extent of the prospect. The danger arising from the situation, and other circumstances, have, however, occasioned this seat to be neglected, and part of the building to be taken down, as the land-springs are constantly undermining the Cliff, so that large masses of it frequently fall into the sea. In some places on this coast, the violence of the waves, combining with the effect of the springs, is recorded to have encroached upon the land nearly a quarter of a mile within the last thirty or forty years.

About two miles eastward from Christ-Church, is a farm, called SOMERFORD GRANGE, which belonged to the Priory founded in that town, and, at the period of the Dissolution, was given to John Draper, the last Prior, together with the manor. The principal buildings are a ruined brick house, apparently of the time of Charles the First; and a more ancient *Chapel*, of stone, adjoining it on the east: the roof of the latter is handsomely arched with

wood,

wood. In the grounds are several large fish-ponds, from which the inmates of the Priory were supplied with fish.*

CHRIST-CHURCH,

OR CHRIST-CHURCH TWYNEHAM, but more correctly *Twynam-bourne*, or *Tweon-ea*, as it was called in the Saxon times,† is situated, as these latter names imply, between two rivers, the Avon and the Stour, which unite their streams at a short distance below the town, and then spreading to the south-east, flow into the sea at Christ-Church Bay. The appellation Christ-Church, was derived from the ancient Church and Priory erected here, and consecrated to the Saviour Christ.

The origin of this town is unquestionably extremely remote, and if not of British, it was probably of Roman building, as may be inferred from a discovery made by the late Gustavus Brander, Esq. who, in ascertaining the ichnography of the demolished Priory, discovered within the foundations, a cavity about two feet square, that had been covered with a stone, carefully cemented with lead into the adjoining pavement, and contained to the amount of half a bushel of bird's bones, and these of herons, bitterns, cocks, and hens, mostly well preserved.‡

Extraordinary as such a phenomenon may seem, observes Mr. Warner, " there is no difficulty in accounting for it, if we advert to the superstition of the ancient Romans, and to the practices of the early Christians. Among the former, many different species of birds were held in high veneration, and carefully preserved for the purposes of sacrifice and augurial divination. Adopting the numerous absurdities of Egyptian and Grecian worship, these tolerating

* Grose's Antiquities, Vol. II.

† The appellation *Tweon-ea*, occurs in the Saxon Chronicle; that of Twyneham is mentioned in a charter granted by King Athelstan, and printed in the Monasticon.

‡ Archæologia, Vol. IV. p. 118.

rating conquerors had affixed a sacredness to the cock, the hawk, the heron, the chicken, and other birds; the bones of which, after their decease, were not unfrequently deposited within the walls of the temple of the deity to whom they were considered as peculiarly appropriated. It seems then probable that the spot on which the Priory of Christ-Church was erected, had originally been occupied by some *Heathen Temple*.

"That a Christian place of worship should be erected on the site of a Pagan Temple at Christ-Church, is not an incredible circumstance, since similar instances occur, not only in our own kingdom, but throughout the whole Continent of Europe; and we learn from Keysler, that it was a common practice with those who undertook the conversion of the Heathens, to fix on such spots for their new places of worship, as had been hallowed in the opinion of the converts, by ancient consecration."*

The earliest historical document relating to this town, occurs in the Saxon Chronicle, from which it appears, that Ethelwold, cousin-german to Edward the Elder, took possession of it during his short-lived revolt in the reign of the latter Prince. In the Domesday Book, it is mentioned as a Royal Manor, and a Burgh, by the name of *Thuinum;* and recorded to have thirty-one messuages, paying a yearly tax of sixteen pence.

Christ-Church continued parcel of the Royal demesne till the reign of Henry the First, who gave it to Richard de Repariis, or Redvers, with many other possessions of immense value. This powerful Baron is supposed to have strengthened the town by walls, and to have erected a CASTLE here,† though Norden has recorded the latter to have been raised by Edward the Elder. In a charter granted to the Priory by Baldwin de Redvers, son of the above Richard, early in the twelfth century, the *fossatum castelli* is expressly mentioned; the fortress itself, therefore, must have been previously erected. Christ-Church remained in the possession of the De Redvers family, with a short alienation by the marriage of

* Topographical Remarks, Vol. II. p. 41—44. † Ibid.

of a daughter, till the time of Edward the Second, when it was re-leased to that Sovereign by Isabella de Fortibus.*

Edward the Third, in the ninth of his reign, granted the borough, manor, and hundred of Christ-Church, to Sir William de Montacute, afterwards Earl of Salisbury, and his wife Catherine, in whose descendants they continued till about the year 1400, when Sir John de Montacute was beheaded for conspiring against Henry the Fourth, and his possessions escheated to the Crown. In the thirty-second of Henry the Sixth, this manor, borough, and hundred, were leased to Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury in right of the Lady Alice, his wife, for the term of twelve years, by the annual rent of a red rose. Whether or not this lease was renewed, is uncertain, though most probably it was, as these possessions were numbered with the other estates of the celebrated Margaret, Countess of Salisbury, Richard's grand-daughter, whom the tyrant, Henry the Eighth, caused to be attainted of treason, and decapitated in her seventieth year.

James the First, by indenture, dated in the eighteenth of his reign, vested the manor of Christ-Church, with many others, in certain trustees, for the use of his son Prince Charles; after whose accession to the throne, it was granted, with all its appurtenances, to four persons, named Ditchfield, Highlord, Clarke, and Mosse, to hold in fee-farm, at the annual rent of 32l. 4s. 1d. In the twenty-second of Charles the Second, it appears, from the adjustments of the claims on the New Forest, to have belonged to Edward, Earl of Clarendon, whose family continued owners till the close of that century, when it became the property of Sir Peter Mew. By the descendants of that gentleman, it was transmitted to the late J. Clark, Esq. who bequeathed it to Sir George Tapps, Bart. The Right Honorable George Rose, the present proprietor, became possessed by purchase in the year 1790.

The principal parts of the *Castle* that now remain, are the ruins of the Keep, or Citadel, and of an ancient stone building, that was probably the State apartment. The former occupied the summit

* See under Lymington, p. 185.

mit of a small artificial mount, and, from the remains of the east and west walls now standing, appears to have inclosed an area of about twenty-eight feet by twenty-four: these walls are ten feet thick; their original height is unknown, as the upper parts have been taken down. The building supposed to have been the state apartment, or Governor's residence, is upwards of seventy feet long, and nearly thirty broad; its walls, like those of the Keep, being exceedingly thick. On the ground floor are a number of loop-holes, formed by a large semicircular arch within, lessening by degrees, and terminating in a chink. From the ground floor was an ascent to the upper apartments by a stone stair-case, part of which yet remains. "The place for receiving the floor of the first story is very visible; it seems to have had one room only, lighted by three large windows on the east, and as many on the west side: they were all included in semicircular arches, formed of stones very neatly cut, and divided by a small pillar in the centre. In the east side, and somewhat north of the centre, was a very large fire-place, worked circularly into the main wall, having also a high cylindrical stone chimney, seemingly the only (original) one in the building. At the north end there appears to have been a large arched window; the columns, and part of the internal arch, are still remaining, and answer to a handsome semicircular arch on the outside, decorated with zig-zag ornaments. This has been stopped up, and two brick fire-places, with a chimney of the same materials, built up in it, seemingly of no antiquity, whence it is evident that this building has been converted into a dwelling. Over the south end, near the top, is a circular window, which seems to have been made for lighting some upper apartment. From what remains of the ornamental part of this building, it appears to have been elegantly finished, and cased with squared stones; most of which, however, have been taken away: by the ruins of several walls, there were some ancient buildings at right angles to this hall, stretching away towards the Keep."*

The PRIORY of Christ-Church was a very ancient foundation; so ancient, indeed, that we have no records of the time of its original

* Grose's Antiquities, Vol. II.

ginal establishment. Camden only observes, that it was founded early in the Saxon times; and other writers are equally deficient as to the exact period of its origin. Its inmates were secular Canons of the order of St. Augustine; and the establishment, as early as the reign of Edward the Confessor, consisted of a Dean and twenty-four Canons.* William Rufus bestowed the Church and Convent on Ralph Flambard, Bishop of Durham, the minion of his tyranny, who had been Dean here in the early part of his life. This prelate determined to rebuild the Church, and the other conventual edifices, which he found extremely out of repair, on a more extensive and superb scale than they had been originally constructed; and for this purpose seized the revenues of the Canons, allowing each of them merely a sufficiency for his sustenance. Godric, the then Dean, who strenuously opposed this infringement of the rights of his brethren, was degraded from his office, and obliged to seek refuge on the Continent; whence, however, he was afterwards permitted to return, and was reinstated in his former dignity. Flambard having thus overcome all opposition to his designs, levelled the ancient buildings with the ground;† and having sufficiently completed his new works, the Church was solemnly dedicated to Christ. About this period, the Bishop purposed to remove the secular Canons, and to replace them by regular Canons of the same order; but his extortions, and oppressive conduct, having offended the new Monarch, Henry the First, he was deprived of all his wealth and honors, and imprisoned in the Tower. From this fortress he escaped by stratagem, and fled to Normandy, to the court of Robert, the eldest brother of Henry, whom he excited to invade England, and by whose influence he was restored to his bishopric; yet the Priory of Christ-Church was retained by Henry, and afterwards granted with the manor to Richard de Redvers. This nobleman increased the endowments by the gift of various rich estates, and vested the community with many valuable privileges. His son, Baldwin, confirmed all the

* Tanner's Notitia.

† Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 95.

grants made by his father, and bestowed several additional immunities. Soon afterwards, Baldwin introduced a certain number of regular Canons into the society, and placed them under the government of a Prior; thus completing the alteration projected by Flambard; he permitted, however, the secular Canons to continue members till their respective deaths, though in a state of subordination to the new-comers.* Richard de Redvers, son of Baldwin, by grant, dated anno 1161, invested the Priory with many new privileges. Numerous grants, with additional liberties, were made by the subsequent possessors of the family estates; yet this increase in property and consequence, does not appear to have been accompanied with any proportionate increase in the knowledge of either science or literature; the only book in the Priory Library, at the period of the Dissolution, being the *Leges aliquot regum Saxonice*;† a Saxon version of a few laws.

When the possessions of this Priory were surrendered to Henry the Eighth, their annual nett value was estimated by the Commissioners at 312l. 7s. 9d. the gross income, according to Speed, was 544l. 6s. 0d. John Draper, the last Abbot, had a pension allowed of 133l. 6s. 8d. and was also permitted to occupy, during life, the Prior's Lodgings, and Grange at Somersford. These considerable investments were most probably in return for his pliant conduct, the Commissioners having reported him to be a *very honest conformable person*; and one too, it should seem, who had not secreted any of the riches of his establishment; as the same letter has the sentence, "we found the house welle furnyshede with juellys and plate, whereof some be meete for the King's Majestie's use."‡ On the fourteenth of September, in the thirty-first of his reign, Henry the Eighth granted the site of the Priory to Stephen Kirton, and Margaret, his wife, to hold by the service of the fortieth part of a Knight's fee, and the rent of 31s. 6d¼.

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 115.

† Lelandi Col. Vol. III. p. 149.

‡ Brit. Mus. Cottonian Library. Cleopatra, 4.

In the ensuing year, the Priory Church, with the Church-yard, and all appurtenances, were granted to the Churchwardens and inhabitants of the town, for ever: this grant was confirmed by James the First, in the ninth of his reign, and has undoubtedly been the means of preserving the Church from the destruction that has overwhelmed the other buildings which appear to have been situated to the south of the Church, near the spot now occupied by the house and gardens that belonged to the late Gustavus Brander, Esq. who purchased the site of the Priory about forty years ago. Some remains of the wall, that inclosed the conventual buildings, are yet standing; and without it, to the south-east, is a meadow, still called the Convent Garden; in a field adjoining to which, are the vestiges of several fish-ponds, and stews. Another trace of this religious foundation may be found in a walk, or ambulatory, called Paradise, now used as a place of recreation for the scholars of Christ-Church school. What seems to have been the Lodge of the Priory, is now occupied by a miller; and, from the initials J. D. which appear on various parts of the building, it is thought to have been erected during the time of John Draper, the last Prior. The site, and part of the walls of the *Refectory*, which measured thirty-six feet by twenty, and of some other buildings, were laid open by the late Mr. Brander, when he attempted to ascertain the ground-plan of the whole pile.

The CHURCH is a very large and interesting building; and though it has been greatly altered since the time of Bishop Flambard, still displays some considerable portions of his work, particularly in the nave, the south-western aisle, and the northern transept. "The *Nave* is formed by a double row of massive square pillars, ornamented with demi-columns: between these pillars are semicircular arches, springing from grouped pilasters, which are lateral projections from the main pillars. Each of these arches has a zig-zag moulding, or cornice, and the space between them, and the second story of arches, is filled up with little triangular indentations. The arches of this second story are also semicircular; the capitals of their pillars displaying various examples of feuillage; and the shafts of some of them ornamented with dia-

 mond

mond net-work, chevrons, and other figures."* This tier of arches is surmounted by a third, apparently of more modern date, as the arches are pointed, and have windows in them: round these is a triforium. The roof is of timber, and very ancient; but whether it formed part of the original building, is doubtful, as the groins of a stone roof spring from the terminations of the main pillars, and tradition records that the whole vaulting was once of stone. The south-western aisle, called also the lower walk, exhibits some semicircular arches, with the *zig-zag* moulding, and other ornaments. At the end of this aisle is a neat Chapel, supposed to have been built as a burial-place by John Draper, the first Prior of that name, who was installed in 1477.

The *North Transept* has been much altered, but still displays evident marks of the Norman style; particularly on the outside, in the escallop and net-work ornaments. Here are two small Chantries, or Oratories, adjoining each other, supposed to have been erected at the same time, by some Earl of Salisbury and his Lady, as the pavement, both within and contiguous to these, has been formed of square tiles, ornamented with the family arms. The intersection of the nave and transept is thought to have been originally crowned by a square tower, as the abutments are peculiarly strong, and have every appearance of having been formed to support some great incumbent weight: this opinion is corroborated by the traditions of the inhabitants. The appearance of the nave is greatly disfigured by the pews, which crowd and obscure many parts of it.

The *Chancel*, and all the eastern part of the edifice from the transept, is of more modern date than the portions above described. Most of the windows are large, and ornamented with mullions and tracery: from the low aisles at the sides, the upper part is strengthened by flying buttresses. The ramifications of the vaulting are handsome; and the bosses, or orbs, and the intersections are all ornamented with small busts, in various habits. The sides are wainscotted with oak, curiously carved; and particularly

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 147.

larly a fascia, or fillet, of grapes and vine-leaves, which runs along the top of the wainscoting. The ancient stalls for the Canons still remain; three of them have carved canopies: the whole number is thirty-six. The under sides of the benches of the stalls, and of many other seats, exhibit a curious series of grotesque and satirical representations, supposed to refer to the arts of the mendicant Friars, who began to establish themselves in England in the thirteenth century. In one of these pieces of carved-work, "a friar is represented, under the emblem of a *fox*, (with a cock for his clerk,) preaching to a set of *geese*, who, unconscious of the fallacy, are greedily listening to his deceitful words. In another, a *zany*, (which is intended to characterize the people at large,) whilst he *turns his* back upon a dish of porridge, has it licked up from him by a *rat*, (under which form we again recognize the *friar*,) who takes this opportunity of committing the theft. Under another of the seats, is a *baboon*, with a cowl on his head, reposing on a pillow, and exhibiting an enormous swollen paunch."*

The ascent to the altar is by a flight of four steps; on the uppermost of which, is an inscribed stone in memory of Baldwin de Redvers, the second of that name, who died in 1216. The *Altar-Piece* is a very curious specimen of ancient carving in wood, supposed, by Mr. Warner, to be coeval with Bishop Flambard. It represents the Genealogy of Christ, by a tree springing from the loins of Jesse, who is displayed in a recumbent position, supporting his head with his left hand. On each side of Jesse is a niche; in one of which is David, playing on his harp; and in the other, Solomon, in a musing attitude. Above these the Virgin is displayed, seated, with the child Jesus in her lap, and near her Joseph, with the magi, and the projecting heads of an ox and an ass; in allusion to the circumstances of our Lord's birth. "These are again surmounted by shepherds and sheep in high relief; the former looking upward to a group of angels, immediately over whom, God the Father, decorated with wings, extends his arms. Exclusive of these figures, most of which are mutilated, there are two-and-thirty smaller ones of different saints, placed in regular corre-

 sponding

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 179.

sponding niches, which any one, well skilled in the Romish calender, might identify, from the attributes or emblems they all individually bear: nine large niches are now destitute of the images that formerly ornamented them."* On the terminations of the groins of the roof, above the *Concameratio*, or open space behind the altar, are small half-length figures, bearing music scrolls, and wind and other musical instruments. Under the altar is a subterraneous Chapel, or crypt, in which the vestiges of a small altar may yet be discerned.

In this part of the fabric, north from the altar, is the beautiful but mutilated Chapel, erected by the venerable Margaret, Countess of Salisbury, for her burial-place, in the reign of Henry the Seventh. The ornaments are extremely well sculptured, and the whole interior is in the most florid style of that age. The roof, or vaulting, is intersected in a very elegant manner, having a representation of the Holy Trinity, within a circle in the centre, and a figure of the Countess kneeling at the feet of God the Father. At the eastern extremity are the Montacute arms, with supporters, and the motto, *Spes mea in Deo est;* and beneath these a shield, with the five wounds of Christ embossed upon it. The hexagonal pilasters which support the Chapel, are highly enriched with sculptured ornaments: it has two fronts, one on the north-east side, and the other towards the altar. "The original beauty of this structure must have been very great; its mutilations are owing to the more than Gothic barbarism that influenced the Commissioners who visited this Church at the Dissolution, and whose wilful dilapidations are thus recorded by themselves, in the document before referred to, as preserved in the British Museum. "In the Church we found a chaple and monument made of Cane (Caen) stone, perperyd by the late mother of Renold Pole for herre buriall, which we have causyd to be defacyd, and all the armys and badgis clerly to be *delete*."†

The eastern extremity of this Church is formed by a spacious *Chapel*, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and supposed to have been built

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 188.

† Cottonian Library, Cleopatra, 4. *Delete* signifies to erase, or blot out.

built by the West family, ancestors to the Lords Delawar, about the conclusion of the fourteenth century; as Sir Thomas West, by will, dated in April, 1405, ordered his body to be interred in the *New Chapel*, and bequeathed 100l. towards the completion of the works of the Church. Several other confessional recesses ornament this building: the altar still remains, having somewhat the appearance of a table monument; the slab that forms the top, measuring eleven feet in length: above this is a piece of elegant carved work, ten feet high, ornamented with a profusion of small pointed niches. On each side of the altar is a tomb, made in the respective walls, and presumed to contain the remains of Alice, wife of Sir Thomas West, who died in 1395; and Thomas, her son. The arch of each recess displays some elegant light shafts of Purbeck marble. Immediately over this Chapel is a large room, called St. Michael's Loft, which has been set apart and used as a *Free Grammar School-Room*, ever since the year 1662; as appears by an entry in the old register of this parish: whether this was its original appropriation, is uncertain; but a school is known to have existed in this town so early as the time of the first Baldwin de Redvers, as appears from his confirmation of the rights granted by his father to the Priory.

The principal entrance into the Church, at the north-west extremity, is beneath a large *Porch*, apparently of the architecture of the fourteenth century. "The arches under which the doors are placed were originally very beautiful, being formed by a variety of mouldings, supported by slender pillars, elegantly shaped, receding inwards, and gradually narrowing the arch:" these shafts are of Purbeck stone. At the west end of the Church rises a square and well-proportioned embattled *Tower*, which seems to have been erected in the fifteenth century, by the Montacutes, Earls of Salisbury, after their alliance with the Monthermers, as appears by the escutcheons of arms on each side the portal. The great window is nearly thirty feet high, and embellished with tracery: above it is a figure of the Saviour standing in a canopied niche, with his right hand raised, a cross in his left, and a crown of thorns on his head. The prospect from the summit of the tower includes a

 very

very extensive tract, teeming with rich meadows, enlivened by the windings of the Avon and the Stour.

Among the sepulchral memorials in this pile, are various slabs, covering the remains of Priors and Canons, most of which have had brasses, displaying the full-length effigies of the deceased; and also inscriptions round the verge of each stone, in Saxon or Gothic characters: the most ancient of these marks the burial-place of Richard Mauri, who died Prior in the year 1297. In a small Chantry near the north transept, in front of which it formerly stood, is a curious altar-monument, with the full-length effigies in alabaster, of a Knight and his lady, traditionally recorded to have been erected to the memory of a Sir John Chidiock, of Dorsetshire, and his wife; the former of whom perished in one of the battles fought during the struggle between the rival houses of York and Lancaster. The Knight is arrayed in armour, with his feet resting on a lion couchant: round his neck is a collar of S.S: the lady is attired in the mitred head-dress, and close garb of the fifteenth century. This tomb has been greatly injured, and the figures mutilated. A monument has been raised here in memory of the late Gustavus Brander, Esq. who bequeathed a sum of money for the purchase of the organ erected in this structure.

The dimensions of the principal parts of this Church are as follow: whole length, including St. Mary's Chapel and the tower, 311 feet; extreme breadth at the western extremity, sixty feet; extent of the transept, 104 feet; breadth of transept, twenty-four feet; length of chancel, seventy feet; breadth, twenty feet; breadth of the nave, twenty-seven feet; circumference of the great pillars, thirty-six feet, six inches; height of the same, thirty-six feet; height of the tower 120 feet.

According to a monkish legend connected with the history of this Church, the building of it was expedited by the assistance of Heaven, a supernumerary workman being always observed dur[illegible] the hours of labor; though at the times of refreshment, and [re]ceiving wages, only the stated number appeared. By his aid, eve[ry]thing prospered till the fabric was nearly finished, when, on raisi[ng] a large beam to a particular situation, where it was intended to be

 fixed,

fixed, it was found to be too short; no remedy appearing, the embarrassed workmen retired to their dwellings. On returning to the Church, the ensuing morning, they discovered that the beam had been placed in its right position, and was now extended a foot longer than was requisite. Speechless with surprise, the additional workman occurred to their thoughts; and on recovering their tongues, they agreed, that no other than Our Saviour could have thus assisted them; and on this account, concludes the story, was the edifice dedicated to Christ. The *miraculous beam* is still pointed out by the finger of Credulity.

In the reign of Edward the First, Christ-Church received a precept, ordering the return of two members to the National Council: and this was repeated in the first and second of Edward the Second, but no returns were made, through the 'poverty of the Burgesses.' In the thirteenth of Elizabeth, it was again summoned as a prescriptive borough; and the circumstances of the times inducing compliance, it has ever since been represented by two members. The right of election is exercised by the Corporation, which consists of a Mayor, a Recorder, Aldermen, Bailiffs, and a Common Council; in all twenty-four persons: but Browne Willis, and others, have stated the real right to reside in the inhabitant householders paying scot and lot.

According to the returns under the Population Act, in 1801, the inhabitants of Christ-Church amounted to 1410; and the number of houses to 295. Many of the former derive employment from two large breweries that have been established here; others are employed in the salmon fishery, on the rivers Avon and Stour, or in fishing round the neighbouring shores, which abound with various kinds of fine fish. The poorer class of females, both in the town and neighbourhood, are mostly engaged in knitting stockings; and many children are employed in a manufactory of watch-spring chains, established a few years ago, by a Mr. Robert Cox, of this town. The Poor-House is conducted on a very excellent plan, by which considerable sums are saved to the parish in the course of a year. The former expenditure has also been greatly lessened by the establishment of several friendly societies; the

the benefits arising from which have been greatly increased under the fostering care of Mr. Rose.* From the Hotel at Christ-Church, which is entirely new built, and fitted up with every convenience that can be found in a private house, is a beautiful view of the Sea, and of the Needle Rocks at the west end of the Isle of Wight.

The BAY or HARBOUR of Christ-Church is spacious; but, from various local causes, it is too shallow and dangerous to be frequented by vessels that draw more than five feet and a half of water. This is chiefly occasioned by a bar or ledge of sand, that extends from the point called Hengistbury Head, on the Hampshire side, to St. Christopher's Cliff, in the Isle of Wight. The situation of this bar is occasionally shifted, and that from two circumstances; either a succession of heavy rains, which increase the force of the waters discharged into the Bay by the rivers Avon and Stour, or by sea storms attended by southerly winds. Another circumstance peculiar to this Harbour, and the neighbouring Port of Poole, in Dorsetshire, is that of every tide producing two high waters. This phenomenon, so inexplicable from the general laws of tides, is occasioned by the situation of this coast with respect to the Isle of Wight, and from the contraction of the channel by the jutting out of the point of land on which Hurst Castle stands. The tide flows into this channel from the west; and though at Hurst Castle it sets in with uncommon violence, it does not meet the tide that passes round the Island, till it has reached Spithead: now the passage being too narrow for all the water to pass through, the time of high water at Hengistbury Head, is, of course much earlier than either at Portsmouth or Chichester; at the full and change of the moon, the difference is three hours and a half. When the water begins to ebb, by flowing off from the west, the contraction in the channel at Hurst Castle operates in a contrary direction; and by confining the

* The Bill for regulating Benefit Societies, and placing the property they might possess on a secure footing, was chiefly drawn up by this gentleman, assisted by communications from a Committee of Delegates chosen by the Societies themselves; and was afterwards passed into an act, through his attention and influence.

the water that has spread itself over the whole surface of the Southampton Water, and of the channel within the Island, gives the water in Christ-Church Bay, an opportunity of flowing off much quicker, by which means it becomes so low, that the water that now pours through with great velocity at Hurst Castle, is sufficient to produce a second rise in Christ-Church and Poole Harbours, of nearly three feet.*

HENGISTBURY HEAD, generally called *Christ-Church Head* by seamen, from its apparent connection with that Church, as viewed from the sea, is a bold head-land, or promontory, forming the western termination of Christ-Church Bay. About a mile from the extremity of the point, the cliff dips for a considerable distance, and the estuary of the Stour and Avon is there only separated from the sea by a narrow neck of land. Across this, at the narrowest point of communication, is an ancient *Entrenchment*, consisting of a fosse, and double rampart; its whole length being about 630 yards. The outer rampart has been formed by the earth thrown up from the ditch; the innermost is the most considerable, and, from the bottom of the fosse, measures about eight yards in perpendicular height. It has three entrances; the most northern of which is flanked by two irregular mounds: between this and the middle entrance, the works are the most perfect; the southern extremity is partly obliterated by the drifted sand-hills, which are heaped on this coast. Near the northern termination is a large barrow, in which human bones, and an urn, have been found. From the name of this promontory being so evidently formed from Saxon appellations, it seems extremely probable, that the Entrenchment was of Saxon origin; though some have attributed it to the Danes, as the Harbour was so peculiarly well adapted to shelter their small vessels.

On ST. CATHERINE'S HILL, (a *ridge* of hills so called,) about one mile and a half north of Christ-Church, and a mile west from the Avon, "is an exploratory Camp, fifty-five yards square, double trenched on every side, except the south, with three entrances.

* For additional particulars concerning the Harbour and Tides of Christ-Church, see Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. p. 169, 171.

trances. About twenty yards from the east end of the north side, a small rampart runs south, and at length unites with the south front: the east side seems to have been continued sixty yards north, till it is crossed by another line. Six small mounts are scattered round this Camp: and not far from the foot of the hill, are two large barrows, one of which was found to contain some human bones. About 300 yards north of the last mentioned line, is an elliptical earth-work, measuring thirty-five yards by twenty-five."* Other remains of Entrenchments may be traced in this vicinity.

RINGWOOD

Is a small town, of considerable antiquity, situated on the east side of the Avon, which here spreads frequently over the meadows, into a broad sheet, studded with small islands. This, as appears from the Domesday Book, was, in the Saxon times, a place of considerable importance, and apparently, of greater value than even Thuinam, or Christ-Church. Here Camden has erroneously placed the *Regnum* of the Itinerary, which other antiquaries, with greater probability, have fixed at Chichester. The inhabitants are principally employed in the manufacture of woollen cloths, and stockings; and in the making of strong beer and ale: the Ringwood beer has obtained much celebrity. According to the returns under the act of 1801, the population of this town amounted to 3222; the number of houses to 693. The unfortunate Duke of Monmouth is said, by several writers, to have been taken in a field near Ringwood, after his defeat at Sedgemoor; but this is a mistake, the place of his seizure being the Woodlands, in Dorsetshire.†

At ELLINGHAM, to the north of Ringwood, was a [illegible] founded by William de Salariis, in the reign of Henry the Second, and made subordinate to the Abbey of St. Saviour Le Vicompte, in Normandy: its possessions, together with the parochial tythes, were granted to Eton College by Henry the Sixth

Some

* Gough's Additions to Camden, from Archæologia, Vol. V.

† See Beauties, Vol. IV. p. 430.

Some remains of the ancient building is supposed to exist in the nave of the Church; the altar-piece displays a fine painting of the Day of Judgment, which was given to the parish by the late Lord Windsor, whose ancestor, Brigadier Windsor, brought it from Port St. Mary, in the Bay of Cadiz, where the troops employed in an expedition in the year 1702, made good their landing, and, among other excesses, ransacked several churches, from one of which this picture was brought. A plain stone in the Church-yard, is inscribed to the memory of DAME ALICIA LISLE, whom the blood-thirsty Jeffreys condemned to be executed in her old age, on a charge of harboring known rebels, in her mansion at Moyles Court in this parish.* The sentence was reversed on the Restoration.

MOYLES COURT, an ancient seat of the Lisle family, is a a good building, standing in a pleasant, but small park. This family derived their name from the Isle of Wight, where, and in Hampshire, they had large estates. John, called *de Insula Vecta*, was summoned by that name to the House of Lords in the reign of Edward the Second. Colonel John Lisle, husband of the above Alicia, was one of the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal in the time of Cromwell; and also a Judge on the trial of Charles the First: this was doubtless the occasion of the unprincipled condemnation and murder of his widow, though she herself was a known loyalist, and had a son in the King's army, that fought against the Duke at Sedgemoor. The Colonel, who had retired to the Continent on the eve of the Restoration, was proscribed by the Parliament of Charles the Second, and shot dead at Lausanne, in Switzerland, by three ruffians engaged for the purpose by some of the royal family. The grand-daughter of this ill-fated couple married Lord James Russel, fifth son of the first Duke of Bedford, brother to the amiable but unhappy Lord Russel.†

FORDINGBRIDGE,

* See under Winchester, p. 48.

† Noble's Memoirs, Vol. I, p. 374.

FORDINGBRIDGE,

A SMALL town on the north-west side of the Avon, is mentioned in the Domesday Book, under the name of *Forde*, and is there recorded to have a Church, and two mills. Here is a manufactory of checks and bed-ticks, and a calico-printing ground. The inhabitants of this parish, as returned under the late act, amounted to 2335; the number of houses to 461.

At GOD's HILL, formerly *Godmanescup*, about two miles from Fordingbridge, is an ancient *Encampment*, defended on one side by a double trench and ramparts, and secured on the other by the steepness of the hill, which is overgrown with oaks.

TATCHBURY MOUNT is supposed to have been an ancient military station; and tradition records it as the site of a Royal hunting seat. The vallations may yet be traced from the terrace that surrounds the area. Here is a neat mansion and plantations, late in the occupation of Charles Connelly, Esq. The prospects beheld from this eminence are very fine, particularly those which include the Southampton Water.

PAULTONS, a seat of Lord Viscount Mendip, embraces a circumference of about five miles of beautiful wooded country. The grounds were laid out by Brown, and present a pleasing specimen of his skill, the [illegible] being judiciously opened into ample lawns, where too thickly crowded with timber: the house is in a low and secluded situation.*

About one mile south of Romsey is BROADLANDS, the seat of Lord Viscount Palmerston, whose father, the late Lord Palmerston, purchased it of the St. Barbe family, who had possessed it nearly two centuries; the last of that name who resided here, was Sir John St. Barbe, Bart. who died in the year 1723. The house is a neat edifice of white brick, standing on the eastern side of the river Test, which flows through the park: it was nearly rebuilt by the late Lord Palmerston, who was ranked among the most eminent of the connoisseurs of his time. The collection of paintings made by this nobleman, and preserved in this mansion,

is

is extremely fine: the following may be enumerated with the most beautiful.

An Old Man's Head, with a ruff and a large hat, half length; Vandyck.

An Old Man's Head, with a long flowing white beard; Gerard Douw: extremely high-finished, and bright.

An Old Man's Head; Rembrandt.

The Descent from the Cross; Dominichino; copied from Daniel de Volterro.

Last Communion of St. Francis; Rubens.

A Forge, with Smiths hammering red-hot Iron, which darts rays of fire through the picture; Wright, of Derby.

The Last Supper; P. Veronese; a sketch for the great picture given by the Republic of Venice to Lewis the Fourteenth.

Young Man's Head; Carracci.

Two Landscapes, with Figures; N. Poussin.

The Children in the Wood; Sir Joshua Reynolds.

A large Landscape, with Figures; Sal. Rosa.

Landscape; Ruysdael; very fine.

The Infant Academy; Sir Joshua Reynolds: this beautiful picture was bequeathed by the artist to the late Lord Palmerston.

A Sea Piece, with Ruins; Claude Lorraine.

Sea View; Loutherbourg.

Landscape, with Figures of the Holy Family; Claude Lorraine.

Landscape, with Men and Horses; Wouvermans.

ROMSEY

Is a large and ancient town, situated in a flat part of the county, and surrounded by pleasant meadows, which are rendered extremely productive by the overflowing waters of the river Test, or Anton. Here was a considerable ABBEY, founded for Benedictine Nuns, by Edward the Elder, whose daughter, Elfleda, was the first Abbess. This foundation was enlarged by King Edgar, whose son, Edmund, was buried in the Abbey Church. All the first Abbesses were of Royal birth, and became so distinguished

for their holy lives, as to be regarded as saints. About the year 992, the Abbey was plundered by the Danes; but the Nuns, relics, and chief valuables, had been previously removed to Winchester for safety, by the Abbess Elwina.

In the Domesday Book, is a list of some of the possessions of this Abbey, which is there called the Abbey *de Romesyg*. In the year 1085, Christina, a cousin to Edward the Confessor, took the veil here; and to her care was entrusted the education of Matilda, daughter of Malcolm, King of Scotland, and afterwards wife to Henry the First. In the next reign, Mary, daughter to the King, (Stephen,) became Abbess here; but was afterwards prevailed on to quit her charge, by Matthew, younger son of Theodoric, Earl of Flanders, to whom she was married. This triumph of the rights of Nature over the shackles of superstitious piety, gave so much offence to the Papal See, that all the thunders of the Church were levelled at the devoted pair; and the unfortunate Mary was at length constrained to return to her Convent, even after she had borne her husband two children. The benefactors to this Abbey were numerous; and its possessions, at the Dissolution, were, according to Dugdale, estimated at the annual value of 339l. 10s. 10¼d. Speed records its yearly income at 528l. 8s. 10¼d. In the thirty-fifth of Henry the Eighth, the site of the Abbey was granted to the inhabitants of the town; and three years afterwards to John Bellow, and R. Bigot.*

But little of the nunnery buildings are now standing, except the venerable and interesting ABBEY CHURCH; the other parts are chiefly confined to a few fragments of walls. The Church is a spacious fabric, in the form of a cross, with a low tower rising from the intersection of the nave and transept. It bears "various evidences," observes Mr. Carter, who has engraved some of the monuments, and capitals, in his Specimens of ancient Sculpture and Painting, "both within and without, of the period in which it was erected, which was the middle of the tenth century." Since that period, however, parts of it have been rebuilt, or altered into the pointed

* Tanner's Notitia.



pointed style; and the whole exhibits a very instructive series of examples in the different kinds of architecture, that have successively prevailed in this country. Several ancient memorials of the Abbesses that have been interred here, still remain. Here is also a very elegant inscription to the memory of FRANCES, Viscountess Palmerston, who died in child-bed in the year 1769; and a flat stone in remembrance of Sir William Petty, ancestor to the Marquis of Lansdown, inscribed thus:

HERE LIES SIR WILLIAM PETTY.*

* Another remarkable monument in this Church was erected for John St. Barbe, Esq. (who represented the county of Southampton in Parliament, A. D. 1654,) and his lady: it is ornamented with their busts, and the effigies, at full length, of their four sons. Both husband and wife died in the year 1659. On the monument is the following curious inscription.*

An Epitaph upon JOHN ST. BARBE, Esq. the sonne of HENRY ST. BARBE, Esq. and GRISSELL his wife, the daughter of JOHN PYNSENT, Esq. He about the 42nd yeare of his age, and she the 22nd yeare of her age, leaving fower sonns, Henry, John, Francis, and Edward, slept in the Lord.

(1) Earth's Rich in mines of pretiose dust (4) whom nature, wedlock, grace, did tie
(3) and faithful ones
(2) Since in her bowels rest these just (5) In one fast chain of vanity
(6) whose silent bones
(7) dead here doe rest, yet left not earth (9) because such righteouse and their seed
(10) In fame and state
(8) but brought fower sonns to perfect birth (11) shall flourish here and shall in deed
(12) tryumph o'er fate.

An anagram upon their Names { John / Grissell } St. Barbe.
Be in shares in blest glorie.

The Memory of the wicked shall rott, but the remembrance of the Just shall live for ever.

* The figures are annexed to denote the reading.

On the outer wall of the south transept, is a singular piece of sculpture, in basso-relievo, representing Our Saviour on the Cross; and near it is a square hole, or recess, in the wall, the use of which is unknown: at a little distance is a finely ornamented Saxon arch, which formerly communicated between the Church and cloisters. The outside of the north transept displays marks of cannon-balls, which are traditionally said to have been fired against it during the Civil Wars, for the purpose of destroying the building.*

The Corporation of Romsey consists of a Mayor, Recorder, six Aldermen, twelve Burgesses, and inferior officers. The *Audit-House*, is a large square building, near the centre of the town, standing on piers, with an open space beneath for the market-people: it was erected by the late Lord Palmerston in the year 1744. The *Town-Hall* is a small old building, near the Hundred Bridge, which divides Romsey-Infra from Romsey-Extra. A large Meeting House, for Presbyterians, was built here during the last year. Three small *Schools* have been established at Romsey, respectively by Sir William Petty; —— St. Barbe; and Mrs. Nowes.

This town had formerly a considerable clothing trade; but that business is now principally reduced to the manufacture of a few shalloons: additional employment is furnished to the inhabitants by some paper works, and a sacking manufactory. The population of the two parishes of Romsey-Infra, and Romsey-Extra, as ascertained under the late act, was 4277; the number of houses was 872.

Sir William Petty, already mentioned as having been buried in Romsey Church, was a native of this town, where his father pursued the occupation of a Clothier. He was born on the sixteenth of May, 1623, and, from his earliest years, manifested uncommon ingenuity, acquiring a ready knowledge of the principles of every trade, the operations of which he had opportunity to inspect.

* Very copious materials have been collected for a History of this Church, together with the Abbey and town of Romsey, by Dr. Lathom, who resides here.

inspect. Nor was his skill in the practical branches less evident, as he quickly attained the facility of an experienced workman, and at the age of twelve, had made several curious machines with his own hands, in imitation of those employed in the clothing trade. His acquaintance with languages was equally uncommon; at fifteen, he was master of French, Latin, and Greek; and had also attained a competent knowledge of those branches of mathematical science which relate to navigation. Medicine and surgery, however, appear to have been favorite studies; and, to increase his acquaintance with anatomy, he went to the Schools in France. On his return, he obtained a command in the navy, and for some time bent his attention to ship-building. In 1648, he taught anatomy and chemistry at Oxford, where he was created Doctor of Physic; in 1650, he was made Professor of Anatomy in that University, and a Member of the College of Physicians in London. Two years afterwards, he was appointed Physician to the army in Ireland, in which country he continued nine years, and acquired considerable affluence. Independent of the time employed in the requisite attentions to the duties of his profession, he found sufficient leisure to pursue, and to develope, the subtle principles of political economy, a science but then in its infancy, and even now, but too greatly subjected to the prejudices of education. In 1661, he was knighted by Charles the Second; the following year, he publisued his celebrated Treatise on Taxes and Contributions. In 1663, he constructed a double-bottomed ship, for the purpose of sailing against wind and tide; but this invention, though generally admitted to be extremely ingenious, was not attended with sufficient success to ensure its adoption. His death was occasioned by a mortification in his foot, and occurred on the sixteenth of December, 1687. At this period, his property is supposed to have produced a yearly income of 15,000l. His books and manuscripts, now in the possession of the Marquis of Lansdown, were extremely select and valuable. One instance of his skill is deserving of record, from its singularity; this is the circumstance of his restoring, with three other practitioners, the suspended animation of a woman, who had been hanged the usual time, at Oxford.

Another native of Romsey, whose name has acquired some eminence in the scale of literature, was Mr. GILES JACOB, author of the Law Dictionary, and of the Lives and Characters of English Dramatic Poets. He died in 1744, at the age of fifty-four.

MOTTISFONT-HOUSE, the seat of Sir Charles Mill, Bart. is a spacious and venerable edifice, occupying a portion of the site of a PRIORY of canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, founded by William Briwere, in the beginning of the reign of King John.* In the reign of Henry the Seventh, the number of religious persons being reduced from eleven, its original establishment, to three, the King procured a bull from Pope Alexander to suppress it; yet this was not acted on, and it continued till the Dissolution, at which period its income according to Dugdale, amounted to 124l. 3s. 5d. annually; but according to Speed, to 167l. 15s. 8d.

The Lord Sandys "that lately died," observes Leland in his Itinerary, "made an exchange with the King, and gave Chelsey by Westmistre for Motesfont Priory in Hamptonshire, wher he began to translate the old building of the Priory, and to make a fair maner-place, but the work is lefte onperfecte." After the sale, in the year 1654, of the *Vine* near Basingstoke, the ancient seat of the Sandys, this became the principal residence of the family, in whose possession it continued till about the year 1700, when Edwyn, the last male heir, dying without issue, the estates were divided among his six sisters, and Mottisfont fell to the share of Margaret, who had married Sir John Mill, Bart. of Tatchbury, in this county, from whom the present possessor is descended.

In Mottisfont-House, a curious ancient painting is preserved that appears to have belonged to the Priory, and is supposed to represent in compartments, two events in the life of the celebrated Thomas Aquinas, whom the Romish calender has dignified with the title of Saint. In one compartment he is represented as receiving a visit from St. Peter and St. Paul, after having passed three days and nights in fasting and prayer, in order to discover the meaning

* Tanner's Notitia; Speed, and some other writers, have attributed this foundation to Flambard, Bishop of Durham.

meaning of a particular passage in Isaiah; the other represents him as busy in writing, while the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, is dictating at his ear; and his friend Bonaventure observing him at the door, which stands partly open. The gardens and pleasure-grounds at Mottisfont are very commodious, and embellished with several fine plane trees.

KING'S SOMBORNE, or *Somberne Regis*, now a small village, was part of the ancient demesne belonging to the Crown previous to the Conquest, and is recorded, in the Domesday Book, to have two Churches; but one of these, most probably, belonged to some dependent manor. John of Gaunt is said to have had a seat, or palace, here; and the tradition is supported, by the appearance of a large mansion in ruins, in a vicinity abounding in yew-trees, which appear to have been assiduously cultivated about his age, for the use of archery. The surrounding grounds are laid out in a peculiar manner; one part assumes the form of a parallelogram, with earthen banks thrown up nearly round it, and about four or five feet in height. About 100 yards from the Church, is a bank of earth, supposed to have been a butt for the exercise of archers: between half and three quarters of a mile distant, is also an area of about thirty acres, which tradition obscurely notices as a large fish-pond, now converted into water meadows; and on the opposite side of a brook, that washes this ground, is a large tract of about 400 acres, called the Park; which is now held under the Duchy of Lancaster, by lease, renewable after a given period. In the Church at Somborne Regis, within a recess on the north side of the chancel, is an ancient tomb, with a mutilated effigies of either an ecclesiastic, or a lady; the inscription, which appears to have been in the Saxon character, is nearly defaced; the arch exhibits the trefoil ornament. This parish includes the chapelries of Stockbridge and Little Somborne; formerly also, there was a Chapel of Ease at Compton, but this has been long destroyed. LITTLE SOMBORNE is the property of Walter Smith, Esq. brother to to Mrs. Fitzherbert; but is at present rented by William Powlett Powlett, Esq.

The *Roman Road*, between Winchester and Old Sarum, passes this village, taking its course from the West Gate of the former city, by the following places: Cock-Lane, St. Cross Corner, Pitt-Fields, Pitt-Down, Garlick Farm, Somborne, South-Field, Horse-bridge, Bossington Mill, Buckholt Warren, Winterslow, and Pitten-Field and Down. The vestiges of this road may not attract the incurious eye, but are still sufficiently conspicuous, through their whole course, to engage the observation of the antiquary.

In the twelfth and fifteenth Iters of Antoninus, an intermediate station, named BRIGE, occurs between *Venta Belgarum*, and *Sorbiodunum*, which Camden supposes to be indicated by the name of BROUGHTON, (Borough-town,) a small village, about one mile to the north of the Roman Road. Salmon places this station on a hill near Broughton, observing, that the eminence must have been the site of the fortress; and Mr. Gale, in a manuscript note, quoted in Gough's Camden, says, that in the year 1719, he saw very large banks, the remains of this town, in a wood near Broughton, in the way to Salisbury. The appellation *Brige* is distinctly preserved in the name of *Horsebridge*, which lies immediately on the Roman Road; but its situation is very low, and closely bordering on the marshes.

In Broughton Church-yard, is a tomb inscribed to the memory of Miss ANNE STEELE, a native of this village, who published two volumes of Poems, on sacred and moral subjects, under the assumed name of *Theodosia*. Another Miss Steele, of the same respectable family, and now the wife of the Rev. Mr. Dunscombe, has also published a poem, entitled *Danebury Hill*, from the name of an eminence north-west of Stockbridge; on which are the evident traces of an ancient Camp.

STOCKBRIDGE;

THOUGH a chapelry to King's Somborne, is a small market-town, situated on the east side of the Test, on the road from Winchester to Salisbury, and chiefly consisting of a range of houses on each side of the highway. The inhabitants are principally supported by

the passage of travellers; this being a considerable thoroughfare, though possessing but little trade of its own: the inns and public-houses are numerous. A new bridge was built here a few years ago. Stockbridge is a borough by prescriptive right; but it does not appear to have returned any members to Parliament till the first of Queen Elizabeth: the right of election is possessed by all who pay church and poor-rates; the number of voters is fifty-seven.* The government of the town is vested in a Bailiff, Constable, and Sergeant at Mace. On Houghton Down, about two miles westward, is a good *Race Course*. The population, as returned in 1801, was 642; the number of houses 161.

DANEBURY HILL, erroneously called *Deanbury* Hill in Milne's large map of this county, is a long elevated ridge, running nearly east and west, and terminating abruptly in a point, or head. On this is a circular *Entrenchment*, in good preservation, inclosing an extensive area, with very high ramparts. The entrance is by a winding course, protected by great banks, and very strong. The ditch on the east and north sides, where the ground is most abrupt and steep, is single; on the west and south-west, where the ground is more level, there is an outer work at a little distance. On the west and north-west of this Camp are several barrows: one of them, about a mile distant, has the name of Canute's Barrow.

Five miles north-west from Danebury Hill, is another considerable *Camp*, occupying a part of the summit of QUARLEY MOUNT, and supposed to be the opposing camp to that of Danebury. On the south side, the works are quadruple; the outward trenches are sixty paces asunder, and from the second to the third, the space measures thirty-six paces. The east side is ploughed up; the other sides are of the respective admeasurements of 210, 240, and 290 paces. Various tumuli are scattered over the downs in this vicinity.

RED-RICE, the seat of Henry Errington, Esq. about two miles northward of Danebury Hill, is pleasantly embosomed in woods, and surrounded by open downs.

* In the History of the Boroughs, Vol. II. p. 73, is a singular anecdote of the method by which Sir Richard Steele obtained his election for this borough, in opposition to the Court, in the reign of Queen Anne.

About three miles west from Andover, and within the out-hundred belonging to that town, is WEY-HILL, the site of an annual fair, which originated in a revel kept on the Sunday before Michaelmas-day, and was afterwards rendered legal by a charter, granted in the forty-first of Queen Elizabeth to the Corporation of Andover, and confirmed by Charles the Second. The fair commences on the day before Old Michaelmas-day, for the sale of sheep, of which upwards of 140,000 have been sold here in one day. On Michaelmas-day the farmers hire their servants, and on the next the sale of hops begins; and the fair continues a more or less number of days after, according to the quantities of this commodity that may be exposed for sale. A vast number of horses are also sold here, particularly cart-colts; together with great quantities of cheese, clothes, and various other kind of wares. Different places are appropriated for the hops; one of them is called Farnham Row, from its being assigned exclusively to the use of the dealers in Farnham hops. The Bailiff of Andover holds a court of pie-powder during the fair, and receives two-pence from each booth, or standing. The fair generally lasts six or seven days, and is attended by persons from almost every part of England. The day before the commencement of Wey-Hill fair, a very considerable one is held at Appleshaw, about three miles northward.

ANDOVER,

A LARGE, respectable, and ancient town, situated on the borders of the downs, near the Anton River, is supposed, by Dr. Stukeley, to be the *Andaoreon* of Ravennas; and probably with truth, as several ancient Encampments may be traced in the vicinity: the Roman Road from Winchester to Cirencester, also passes near the town, and is yet visible in Harewood Copse. Here, in the year 994, was made the treaty between Anlaf, the Dane, and King Ethelred, by which the former engaged never to re-commence hostilities against the English. In the Domesday Book, *Andovere* is recorded as being held by the King, and previously by Edward the Confessor; as having six mills, and woods which furnish pannage for 100 hogs.

The

The *Church* is a spacious structure, standing at the north end of the town, and consisting of a nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a transept on the north, and a low tower rising from the centre: at the west end is a fine semicircular arched door-way, with zig-zag mouldings. This Church existed in the time of the Conqueror, by whom it was given to the Abbey of St. Florence, at Salmur, in Anjou, and afterwards made a cell to that foundation. On the final dissolution of the Alien Priories, in the reign of Henry the Fifth, it was given to St. Mary's College, near Winchester. Here was also an *Hospital* for brethren and sisters, founded as early as the time of Henry the Third.

The Corporation boasts an antiquity as remote as the reign of King John; but, however this may be, the charter under which it is now governed, was granted by Queen Elizabeth. The corporate officers consist of twelve capital Burgesses, from whom a Bailiff, and two other Magistrates, are chosen annually, and twelve Assistants: here is also a Steward, Recorder, and Town-Clerk. The earliest return to Parliament, was made in the time of Edward the First; but after the first of Edward the Second, no members were sent till the twenty-seventh of Elizabeth, since which the returns have been regular. The right of election has been long assumed by the Corporation; the number of voters is twenty-four. The *Town-Hall* is a large modern building of brick, with an open space beneath for the markets. Among the charitable institutions are, an *Hospital* for six poor men, founded by John Pollen, Esq. who represented Andover in several Parliaments in the reign of William the Third; a *Free-School*, founded by John Hanson, Esq. in 1569; and a *Charity-School* for thirty boys. The population, in the year 1801, was returned at 3304; and the number of houses at 679: the latter are principally ranged in two long streets. This is a great thoroughfare; a considerable trade is also carried on here in shalloons and malt. Besides two or three *Encampments* in the immediate neighbourhood of Andover, there is a large one about two miles to the south-west, on the summit of Bury Hill.

At WHORWELL, or WHERWELL, three miles south-east from Andover, was a NUNNERY, founded by Elfrida, second wife

of King Edgar, in atonement for the murder of Edward the Martyr, at Corfe Castle;* and also for that of Ethelwold, her first husband, whom Edgar is recorded to have slain, in a wood near Whorwell, that he might obtain her in marriage. In this Nunnery, Elfrida took the veil, and was buried. Many privileges were granted to the foundation by Pope Gregory the Ninth; and its possessions were so numerous, that their annual value, at the Dissolution, was estimated at 339l. 8s. 7d. according to Dugdale; and at 403l. 12s. 10d. according to Speed. The site of the Nunnery was granted to Sir Thomas West, Lord Delawar.†

HURSTBOURNE PARK, the beautiful seat of John-Charles Wallop Fellows, Earl of Portsmouth, is about one mile to the west of Whitchurch. The mansion stands on elevated ground, commanding various extensive and fine prospects to the south and north: it consists of a centre and two uniform wings, connected with the body of the house by colonnades: in the eastern wing is the Library and Chapel; the other contains the offices and servants' apartments. In the centre part are several noble rooms, decorated with numerous paintings, some of which are the productions of the best masters. This structure was erected by Mr. Meadows, from the designs of Mr. Wyatt. From the south or principal front, the ground gradually slopes to a large piece of water, which winds through the Park: the latter is delightfully wooded, and abounds with fine deer and timber, particularly to the east of the house, where the beech and oak have attained great size, and are very flourishing.

The noble owner of this estate, is descended from an ancient Saxon family, who possessed, and derived their name from the manor of Upper Wallop, on the river of that name in this county, at least as early as the time of Edward the Confessor: '*Quatuor Angli tenent,*' says the Domesday Book, '*de Rege, Wallope; pater eorum tenuit, in alodium, de Rege Edwardo.*' This family have for many generations been intrusted with important offices, and distinguished for their loyalty. Matthew de Wallop had the custody

* See under Corfe Castle, Vol. IV. p. 392—396.

† Tanner's Notitia.

custody of Winchester Castle in the time of King John. John de Wallop had a grant of lands in Ireland bestowed on him for his faithful services, by Edward the First. Sir Robert de Wallop was appointed one of the council to settle the differences between the King and the Barons, in the fifty-first of Henry the Third. Sir Robert Wallop, who was several times Sheriff of Southampton in the reign of Henry the Seventh, was, in the fifth of Henry the Eighth, nominated, by Act of Parliament, as a proper and "discreet person" for assisting in collecting a subsidy of 163,000l. by a poll-tax. Sir John Wallop, his nephew, and heir, afterwards Knight of the Garter, was greatly distinguished for his martial exploits, and particularly for the destruction of several villages and ships on the coast of Normandy, in revenge for the French setting fire to the town of Brighthelmstone. He was also employed in several important embassies, and entrusted with various military commands of the first magnitude. His nephew, Sir Henry Wallop, Knt. was eminently distinguished for his conduct in Ireland in the time of Queen Elizabeth, who, besides conferring on him other trusts, constituted him one of the Lords Justices, in that country, where he acquired great property. John Wallop, fifth in descent from Sir Henry, and first *Earl* of Portsmouth, was created a Peer, by letters patent of George the First; the preamble to which bears a very dignified and honorable testimony to his talents and his virtues: the Earldom of Portsmouth was conferred on him by George the Second, in April 1743. His grandson, the present and third Earl, assumed the name of Fellows, by permission of his present Majesty, on acceding to the property of his uncle by the maternal line.

WHITCHURCH

Is a small straggling town, situated in a bottom under the Chalk Hills, and possessing the rights of a borough by prescription. Its government is vested in a Mayor, who is chosen annually at the court-leet of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester, to whom the manor belongs. The first return to Parliament was made in the twenty-

twenty-seventh of Queen Elizabeth. The members are elected by the freeholders, who, at the period of election, are nominally about *seventy;* but as all the freeholds appear to be possessed by *two* noblemen, the real number of electors must be regarded as the same. The population of this parish, as ascertained in 1801, was 1275; the number of houses 224: the laboring classes are chiefly employed in the woollen trade, and in agriculture.

At FREEFOLK, a small hamlet east of Whitchurch, are the *Paper Mills,* and seat, belonging to John Portal Brydges, Esq. where the paper for Bank notes has been manufactured ever since the reign of George the First. At LAVERSTOCK, adjoining, is the seat of William Portal, Esq. and in the neighbouring parish of OVERTON, on an eminence, is a handsome new-built House, with a lofty Portico, the property and residence of —— Jarvis, Esq. In this village a Silk Mill has been established.

LICH-FIELD appears, from its name, to have been the site of a battle, as this compound literally signifies a field of carcases. The Roman road from Old Sarum to Silchester, is very visible on the downs of this and the adjoining parishes of Sydmonton and King's-clere: it is chiefly composed of flint, and is termed, by the country people, the *Devil's Bank.*

CRUXEASTON, once famous for its *Grotto,* constructed by nine sisters, of the name of Lisle, and celebrated by the lines of Pope, is about two miles from High-clere, on the turnpike road between Andover and Newbury. Only the shell of the Grotto remains; the estate having passed into other hands, it was suffered to go to ruin. The front was of flint; the interior studded with shells, scoriæ of iron ore, and other substances: it contained a seat for each sister, with a niche for the presiding magician. Pope's lines upon it were as follow:

> Here shunning idleness at once and praise,
> This radiant pile nine rural sisters raise;
> The glittering emblem of each spotless dame,
> Pure as her soul, and shining as her fame:—

Beauty

Beauty which nature only can impart,
And such a polish as disgraces art;
But fate dispos'd them in this humble sort,
And hid in deserts what would charm a court.

The Hon. Nicholas Herbert, son of Thomas, Earl of Pembroke, also wrote some verses on the same subject:

So much the building entertains my sight,
Nought but the builders can give more delight;
In them the master-piece of Nature's shown—
In this I see Art's master-piece in stone.
Oh! Nature, Nature, thou hast conquer'd Art;
She charms the sight alone, but you the heart.

Edward Lisle, Esq. the father of the nine sisters, died at Cruxeaston, in 1722. He had twenty children, seventeen of whom survived him: he was author of a work intituled, "Observations upon Agriculture." One of his sons, Dr. Thomas Lisle, was author of Porsenna, King of Russia, and other ingenious productions, preserved in Dodsley's Collection: he died Rector of Burgh-clere, in 1765-6. Margaret, the youngest sister, possessed great talents for painting; three of her pieces in crayons are preserved by Lord Carnarvon; two of them at High-clere House, are copies of ancient portraits of Sir Richard and Lady Kingsmill, admirably executed. On the trees of the grove surrounding the Grotto, she painted the portraits of several of her acquaintance, in a manner which produced a singular effect, as they appeared to form parts of the trees themselves. This lady is said to have died two or three years ago, between ninety and a hundred years of age. The derivation of Cruxeaston is curious, as it appears in the Domesday Book; "*In Andevre Hundred Terra Croch Venatoris. Isdem Croch tenet Estone.*"

HIGH-CLERE, the manor and residence of Henry Herbert, Earl of Carnarvon and Lord Porchester, was formerly parcel of the Bishopric of Winchester. In the Domesday Book, it is said, '*Semper fuit in Ecclesiam tempore Regis Edwardi:*' and in the Taxatio Ecclesiastica of Pope Nicholas, made in the year 1291, it

it is thus stated as making one property, with other manors; '*Clere* cui hamelet de Newinton, (now Newtown;) Widihaie, (East Woodhay;) Armereworth, (Ashmansworth;) Estmieswell, (Itchingswell;) and Burclere, (Burghclere;) and with them computed at 210l. 1s. 2¼d.'

The Bishops of Winchester had a House and Park here, at which they occasionally dwelt. Several of the public acts of the celebrated William of Wykeham, are dated at High-clere; and in a Codicil to his Will, he bequeaths five pounds to the Minister; and directs his executors to reward the Park-keeper according to their discretion. The bailiwick of High-clere continued in possession of the Bishopric till the reign of Edward the Sixth, when it was dismembered by John Poynet, Bishop of Winchester, who granted to the King, on the fourth of June, 1552, in the fifth year of his reign, the manors and free warrens of High-clere and Burgh-clere, with the advowsons and rights of patronage to the Churches. The September following, the King granted these manors to William Fitz-William, Esq. afterwards Sir William, one of the Gentlemen of his bed-chamber. This grant, with many others of a similar nature, was annulled by Queen Mary; but again established by Elizabeth, in the first year of her reign.*

This

* Strype, in his Annals, gives the following account of this transaction: "Feby. 15, 1558, a Bill was brought in the Commons House, for restoring of the patentees of the Bishop of Winchester's lands, of which lands they had been thrown out in Queen Mary's reign, and their patents evacuated; and the said lands procured back to Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, and his successors. This Bill was (Feb. 18) read a second time; and again ten days after, (Feb. 28,) the Bill was amended, or rather renewed, and now entituled, a Bill for Assurance of Lands, late Parcel of the Bishoprick of Winchester, granted to King Edward the Sixth, and by his Letters Patent, granted to the Earl of Pembroke, Sir William Fitz-William, Sir Philip Hobby, Sir John Mason, Sir Henry Seymour, Sir Henry Nevill, and Sir Richard Sackville: the Bill was now read a first time." Strype proceeds to relate the unsuccessful opposition of the Bishop of Winchester, (who, in opening his title, said, that these lands had been parcel of his Bishopric for 1300 years,) and the final passing of the Bill on the eighteenth of March.

This estate continued in possession of the assigns of Sir William Fitz-William till it was purchased by Sir Robert Sawyer, Attorney General to Charles the Second, and James the Second. He resided at High-clere, the latter years of his life, and was buried in the Parish Church, which he rebuilt. His only daughter, Margaret, married Thomas, Earl of Pembroke, the last Lord High Admiral of England; and by Sir R. Sawyer's Will, this property devolved upon her second son, the Hon. Robert Herbert; and on his death, without issue, in 1769, it came by succession to his nephew, the present Earl of Carnarvon, (son of William, fifth son of Thomas, Earl of Pembroke,) who has purchased of the Bishop of Winchester, under the act for the redemption of the land-tax, the manors of East Woodhay, Ashmansworth, Itchingswell, and Newtown, forming the remainder of the ancient bailiwick of High-clere.

The Mansion is situated on a rising ground, in a noble Park, upwards of thirteen miles in circumference. Part of it was built upon the old site, by the Hon. Robert Herbert; but it was greatly enlarged, and has received its present form from Lord Carnarvon. It is a brick structure, stuccoed, in a modern style of architecture, and more distinguished for elegance, than splendor of appearance: the Entrance Hall measures seventy feet, by twenty-four; the Library, thirty-three feet, by twenty-three: the Dining-Room is of the same extent as the Library; and the other apartments of proportionable size.

Various portraits are preserved in this House, with other good paintings, and cabinet pictures: the following may be selected as the principal.

CHARLES THE FIRST, on Horseback, the DUC D'EPERNON holding his Helmet; large as life, after Vandyck, by Old Stone.

LADY CARNARVON, and LORD PORCHESTER; Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Three Poor Children, whole lengths; Gainsborough.

LORD PORCHESTER as Bacchus; Sir J. Reynolds.

Holy Family, with Angels threading the Needle; Vandyck.

A Shipwreck; Mortimer.

Cupid

Cupid sleeping on Clouds; Sir J. Reynolds.

PHILIP, Earl of Pembroke, and his Family; three feet seven, by two feet eight; Vandyck. This was a marriage gift of Philip, Earl of Pembroke, to James Herbert, the third son, represented in the picture, and was given to the Earl of Carnarvon by Mrs. Ann Herbert, of Kingsey, the last descendant of that branch bearing the name of Herbert. It carries along with it clear evidence of having been painted by Vandyck, and may possibly have been the first executed, and have given rise to the large picture by this artist, which occupies the end of the Saloon at Wilton.

Dead Swan, Peacock, and other Birds; Weeninx.

PHILIP, Earl of Pembroke; Vandyck.

Dead Game; Weeninx.

Pirates dividing their Spoil; Mortimer.

But the chief glory of High-clere is its Park and Pleasure-grounds, of which, it may be truly observed, that few places of similar extent in the inland parts of the Kingdom, can boast of surface more varied, or scenery more interesting. It owes its present beauty to its noble owner. When it came into his Lordship's possession, part of it had been converted into a farm; it was divided into numerous inclosures; few trees remained, except in the hedge rows and woods; and the old Park was formed into a rabbit warren. It is now clothed with a profusion of foliage; and, from the judicious disposition of the plantations, the prospects are extremely improved. The most striking feature of the Park is *Sidon Hill*, the ascent of which begins about half a mile to the south from the House: the summit of this eminence boldly rises upwards of 400 feet in perpendicular height above the level of a neighbouring valley, and is crowned with a ruined arch, backed by venerable woods; the plantations on its sides are also disposed with great beauty; and the drives, which wind along to the summit, present various extensive views over the Park and surrounding country. Beacon Hill, to the south-east of this, and just without the Park Gate, forms a striking contrast to it, not a single tree appearing thereon. The entrance into the Park from Winchester, is between these hills, by an arched gateway, bearing a trophy of

arms

arms over the principal arch. On the opposite side of Sidon Hill is a castellated Lodge, "bosom'd high in tufted trees," of a triangular form, with a turret at each angle. The view from Tent Hill, a bold elevation on the northern side of the Park, with a grove on its summit, is very extensive. The House is seen at a mile and a half distance, with Sidon Hill, and its plantations, magnificently rising in the back-ground. In front is a most luxuriant display of wood and water. To the right, Milford Water appears in the distance: this extensive sheet derives peculiar charms from its secluded situation, and the venerable antiquity of the surrounding woods, in which it is completely enveloped. On this water is a pile of building, comprehending a Dining-Room, Kitchen, and other appendages. From this spot drives have been formed through the plantations to Clare Brow, where the prospect of the House, and surrounding scenery, is very fine. Extensive rides, admitting beautiful views, have also been made through Pen Wood, a large tract of oak, interspersed with abundance of hollies, many of them of unusual size. Several ornamental buildings have been erected in different parts of this demesne, which possesses many beauties that our limits compel us to pass unnoticed, though deserving of minute examination: the observer

> From scene to scene, by random steps convey'd,
> Admires the distant views, the secret shade;
> Dwells on each spot; with eager eye devours
> The woods, the lawns, the buildings, and the bowers;
> New sweets, new joys, at every glance arise,
> And every turn creates a fresh surprise.
>
> LISLE'S PORSENNA.

BEACON HILL, mentioned in the preceding description, is remarkable for the ancient Camp which occupies its flat summit, and which, though so conspicuously situated, and in such excellent preservation, has scarcely been noticed by antiquaries. Camden only mentions it as a military fortification, surrounded by a ditch of great compass, and as the site of a Beacon; and Mr. Gough merely refers to the extent of the northern prospect. The form of the

Camp is irregular, the entrenchment following the outline of the Hill: the ditch is well preserved, and very deep where the ascent is most easy: the entrance is on the south side, where it is defended by two ravelins: within the area, are several vestiges of ancient huts, probably of British origin, as they are of circular form, rather elevated, with a small depression in the centre; and on removing the thick moss, appear pitched with flints. upon a ridge to the north is a turf elevation, apparently intended as an out-post.*

On a plain, about a mile from this Camp, are seven *tumuli*, or barrows, of considerable size; and three of much less elevation some of each description have been opened by Lord Carnarvon In the elevated barrow, there first appeared a large quantity of collected mould, occupying about half of its height; and next a great heap of flints, reaching to the surface of the down, whereon, under an arch of flints, burnt bones and ashes were found. In the low barrow, there was no accumulation either of mould or flints, and the bones and ashes were contained in holes made in the chalky sub-stratum of the downs. The circumference of the large barrows is bounded by a sort of ditch, the earth of which appears to have been thrown up in the centre. The largest barrow is about 100 yards in circumference, and ten or twelve feet high. In some of the barrows, charcoal, apparently of beech wood, was found. The centre of the largest of the low barrows is crossed by the turnpike road.

About one mile and a half eastward from Beacon Hill, on an eminence called LADLE HILL, is a circular *Encampment*, including an area of nearly eight acres; and at a little distance north-north-east, on the declivity of the Hill, is another small circular work, probably intended as an out-post; this is entirely pitched with flints. Southward of the larger Camp are three barrows.

CANHAM,

* The altitudes of Beacon Hill, Sidon Hill, and High-clere House, above the sea at low-water mark, are as follow: Beacon Hill, 900 feet; Sidon Hill, 942 feet, seven inches; High-clere House, 587 feet, nine inches. The height of Beacon Hill was taken by Captain (now Colonel) Mudge, during his Trigonometrical Survey; the other altitudes were ascertained by Baron Zach, Astronomer to the Duke of Saxo Gotha.

CANHAM, or CANNONS LODGE, two miles south-west of Kings-clere, in a hollow of the chalk downs, was built by Charles, Duke of Bolton: it was afterwards a residence of the Earl of Mexborough, and then of the late Duke of Cumberland, who kept part of his stud at this place. Here his Royal Highness frequently assembled a select party of friends, among whom were the celebrated Foote, and Sir Francis Blake Delaval; the former of whom broke his leg here: the memory of their exploits, is still, and will long be, preserved in the neighbourhood. It has since been occupied many years by Mr. Lade, a well-known character in the annals of sporting. Lord Bolton is now demolishing the house, the site and vicinity of which are extremely barren and uninteresting.

SYDMONTON HOUSE, the residence of Admiral Sir Robert Kingsmill, was granted to his ancestors John Kingsmill, and Constantia, his wife, by Henry the Eighth, on the dissolution of the Monasteries: the building is irregular, it having been erected at different periods. Part of Sydmonton, comprehending 764 acres, belonged to the Abbey at Romsey, and pays only one acre of wheat, and one of barley, in lieu of rectorial tythes; and forty pounds annually in lieu of vicarial tythes.

KINGS-CLERE

Is a small place, of mean appearance, and only remarkable for having been a seat of the West Saxon Kings; though Camden mentions it as being a considerable market-town. The Church is a small stuccoed building, with a low tower, and has a monument erected in memory of the Kingsmill family. The number of inhabitants of this parish, in 1801, was returned at 1939; that of houses at 394. It is probable that the Palace of the Saxon Sovereigns was connected with FREEMANTLE PARK, a short distance to the south, as that is known to have been a Royal residence in King John's time, by the following passage in the *Calendarium Rotulorum Patentium*, of the 6th King John: "*Rx. Generalis Pardonatio Apud Freitmantell* 15°. *Apr.* 16°. *D°—Cives London: reddiderunt inimicis regis civitatem London: die dominica proxante festum*

 Sancto

Sancte Dunstani. Apud Frigidum Mantell 18°. *Maij.* In the twenty-fifth of Henry the Sixth, the keeping of Freemantle Park was granted to the famous William de la Pole, Earl and subsequently Duke of Suffolk. In Queen Elizabeth's time, it was still in possession of the Crown, as appears from an entry in the Civil List "Freemantle, Hantshire, Keeper of the Park, fee, 4l. 11s. 3d. The herbage and pannage, fee, 11l." The Mansion, which stood in a very exposed and bleak situation, has been lately pulled down by —— Blount, Esq. and the Park has been ploughed up, and converted into a farm.

SILCHESTER, the *Caer Sciont,* or *Segont.* of the Britons, and *Vindonum* of the Romans, is one of the most perfect of the ancient stations in the south of England. It is situated near the borders of Hampshire, adjoining Berks, and, from its elevated site, commands very extensive prospects over the surrounding country. Its name, *Caer Segont,* was obtained through its having been the chief city of the *Segontiaci;* and by this name it occurs on a stone dug up here, with the following imperfect inscription.*

DEO HER
SAEGON
T. TAMMON
SAEN. TAMMON
VITALIS
OB HONO

That this was a principal Roman station, is evinced not only by its magnitude, and the mode of construction observed in the building of the walls,† but also by the various Roman roads which branch off

* "Thus supplied by Mr. Ward; *Deo Herculi Sægontiacorum Titus Tammonius Sænii Tammonii Vitalis filius ob honorem,*" &c.
Gough's Camden.

† "The first foundation of the *Wall,* which is to be discovered on the north and south-east sides of the city, appears to have been made with large flag-stones, from two to four feet in breadth, and four in length; and of unequal thickness, as sometimes, six, seven, eight, and nine inches:

off in different directions, and by numerous vestiges of Roman occupation that have been discovered here.

Q 3 Camden,

inches: their depth could not be ascertained, because they yet remain firmly fixed in the wall. Upon these stones was laid a stratum of rubble-stone, or large cragged flints, large pebbles, &c. filled up and held together with a strong cement. This was continued to the height of about two feet and a half; and then succeeded another layer of large flat stones, though not so big as the former; for the largest of these seldom exceeded three feet in length, and oftener were not so long: they ran in general from four to six inches in thickness, and seldom exceeded eighteen or twenty inches in breadth. This course or layer of flat stones runs round the whole city, and may easily be discovered in any part of the walls, its bottom being almost every where level with the ground. Upon this layer again was another stratum of rubble-stone, which, according to the measurement on the south side, was in height three feet: then succeeded another layer of small flat stones, made as near as possible to the shape of the Roman brick, but larger and thicker, so that the thickness of the stone interspersed with the cement, amounted to four inches. On this layer was laid another stratum of rubble-stones, composed of smaller flints, placed in more order than the former; this stratum was about two feet and a half in height: then followed a double row of flat stones, in shape and thickness exactly the same as those before described. On these again was laid another stratum of rubble-stone, of the finer sort, like the former, and exactly of the same height, viz. two feet and a half. On the top of this was a repetition of a double row of flat stones, something larger and thicker than the former; for these two rows, with the mortar, made the space of nine inches. The stratum of rubble which was again raised on these, was three feet high; and on the top succeeded by a double row of flat stones, still increasing in size, and then the rubble continues on the top, higher, or lower, as the walls have been more or less damaged; yet in many places, a succeeding layer of flat stones is to be seen, followed also by another stratum of rubble of still finer cast. One thing was observable, as well in the foundation as in the second row of large stones, described as above; these great stones were not continued regularly, but there appeared frequent breaks, filled up with smaller flat stones, set shelving one over the other; also in the second, in the third, fourth, and fifth stratum of

rubble

Camden, on the authority of Nennius, and Gervasius Dorobornensis, affirms, that the Usurper Constantine was invested with the purple in this city, in the year 407. The British King, Arthur, is also said to have been crowned here; but with manifest error,* as

rubble (from the ground) great pains appeared to have been taken with the flints, to place them in exact order; so that for a considerable distance they are observed to form a kind of zig-zag, or herring-bone work, laid in rows, some one way, and some another. The wall at the south gate being measured, was found to be full twenty-four feet thick.

"The whole of this city was surrounded by a large *deep ditch*, great part of which is now filled up with the ruins of the wall, so as to form a bank, on which one may easily walk round about, having the wall itself on one side, and the ditch below on the other: but this was not its original state, for formerly the ditch came up close to the wall, and this bank was not then in being. Beyond the ditch again, is the external *vallum*, very perfect, and easily to be traced out round the whole city; its highest parts, even in the present state, are at least fifteen feet perpendicular from the bottom of the ditch. A straight line, drawn from the top of this bank to the wall on the north-east side, measured thirty-four yards, its full breadth. The two main *streets*, which led from gate to gate, are broader than any of the rest, and measured more than ten yards across. Near the middle of the city, within a spacious square, formed partly by the intersection of the two main streets, was discovered the foundation of a large structure, consisting of free-stone, three feet thick, which is reported to have been a Temple; because near it, and in the inside, were found the remains of a little elevated building, an altar, as it was thought, from the quantity of ashes, wood, and burnt coal, that lay round about: it was three feet in height, four in length, and three in breadth, and entirely built of Roman bricks, the dimensions of which were as follow: seventeen inches and a half long, twelve inches and a half broad, and nearly two in thickness.† Not far from the same place was also ploughed up a large column of free-stone, in diameter one foot eight inches; and a piece of wall of rubble-stone, strongly cemented. The city was supplied with water from a fine plentiful spring, which rises in a south-east direction, and running to the walls, discharges itself underneath into the ditch." *Strutt's Chronicle.*

* See under Winchester, p. 22.

† Phil. Trans. Vol. XLV. fol. 603.

as in his time the former splendor of Silchester was only attested by its bare walls, and heaps of ruins; it having been destroyed by the fierce Ella, on his march to Bath, about the year 493. This warlike Saxon landed in Sussex with a new levy of his countrymen in 477; his first enterprise was against the British city of Caer Andred, afterwards called Andredesceastre, which, after a brave resistance, was taken, and levelled with the ground, by the triumphant conqueror; every inhabitant was at the same time massacred.* Marching forward, he besieged this city, which being unable to resist his prowess, exhibited similar scenes of massacre and fell desolation. The important battle of Bath terminated for awhile both his conquests and his cruelty, the Saxons being defeated with immense slaughter, by the gallant Ambrosius.

Whether the Romans found this city already so strongly fortified, that they judged it expedient to build their walls according to the original plan, cannot be told; but it is certain that in this instance they departed from the form generally observed in the construction of their stations; the walls making an irregular octagon; so irregular, indeed, that scarcely any two of the sides are of equal length. The inclosed area is nearly a mile and a half in circumference, and contains about one hundred acres, which have long been cultivated, and are divided into seven fields. The parochial Church, and Church-yard, are also within the walls, together with a farm-house, and its requisite offices. The ground slopes gently from the centre to the south, in which direction a small spring flows, that rises near the farm-house: other small springs also rise here, so that parts of the fosse which surrounds the walls are generally filled with water. On the south side, the walls are the most perfect, and in some places measure nearly twenty feet high; the general height is from fifteen to eighteen or twenty feet.

* Chron. Sax. Hen. Hunt. &c. "Omnes ore gladii devorati sunt cum mulieribus et parvulis, ita quod nec unus solus evasit. Et quia tot ibi damna toleravere extranei, ita urbem destruxerunt; quæ nunquam postea reedificata est. Locus tantum quasi nobilissimæ urbis transeuntibus ostenditur desolatus." *Hen. Hunt. Hist. l.* 11. *Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p.* 64.

The foundations of the streets may yet be traced running in various parallel lines across the area: the four principal streets communicate with the entrances, which were on the north, east, south, and west sides: besides these, there are now two other entrances, which have been formed as waggon or cart ways. An open space, near the centre of the area, is supposed to have been the site of the forum, from the foundations of a large building, and other remains, that were dug up here. On the south side are traces of a small postern, or sally-port, running beneath the wall, and called by the country people, *Onion's Hole,* from a fabled giant of that name, who is affirmed by tradition to have made this city his residence; and in correspondence with this idea, the coins that have been dug up here, are frequently called Onion's pennies: they were even thus denominated in the days of Camden, who also mentions various inscribed stones as having been found in this station; but again lost, or destroyed, through the ignorance of the peasantry. On one stone, which he mentions as still preserved in the gardens of Lord Burleigh, and which appears from Horsley to have been afterwards in the possession of Sir Robert Cotton, was this inscription:

MEMORIÆ
FL. VICTORI
NÆ. T. TAM:
VICTOR CONJVX
POSVIT.

Camden also mentions many coins of Constantine the Younger, as having been found here by himself, having on the reverse, a building with this inscription: PROVIDENTIÆ CÆS. Another inscribed stone, but imperfect, was discovered here in the year 1732; and referred by Mr. Ward to Julia Domna, wife of Severus, or Julia Mammea, the mother of Alexander, both of whom, he observes, have the same titles on coins and inscriptions as appeared on the stone.

In Gough's Additions to Camden, mention is made of a person named Stair, who formerly kept a public-house in the neighbouring village of Aldermaston, and had a "great collection of coins, both

brass

brass and silver, from Julius Cæsar to the latest Emperors, found hereabouts; and some gold and silver, British: two onyx seals; one with a cock picking out of a cornucopia; the other only ZACP. Of the Roman coins found here, one of the rarest is a gold Allectus; rev. Apollo, with a whip and globe; at his feet, two captives, ORIENS AVG. ML. and gold ones of Valentinian and Arcadius. One spot, called Silver-Hill, where are foundations of large buildings, has yielded a great quantity of silver coins. In or near the Temple (Forum) above mentioned, Stair told me, he found twelve or more pedestals, and fragments of stone statues, too imperfect to bring away: he shewed me the small alabaster head of a man, with curled hair, about three inches high, and said that many copper *penates* had been found: he had a sword with two serpents encircling the hilt, found within the walls."

Among the various relics of antiquity that have been more recently discovered, are some gold coins and rings, now in the possession of the farmer who rents the estate: one of the rings has a singular shaped key attached to it, but whether for use, or ornament, is doubtful. Roman bricks and pottery are frequently dug up; indeed, the whole area is strewed with fragments of this description; and in the farm-yard, and a ditch adjacent, are parts of a large column. Necklaces of blue beads, or links, saws, bells, swords, and masons' tools, have likewise been found here; and also a curious Roman eagle in steel, which was shown to the Society of Antiquaries by a former Bishop of Carlisle.*

About 150 yards from the north-east angle of the walls, is a Roman AMPHITHEATRE, the form of which is similar to that near Dorchester, with high and steep banks, now covered with a grove of trees, and two entrances. The elevation of the Amphitheatre consists of a mixture of clay and gravel, and the seats were ranged in five rows, one above the other; the slope between each measuring about six feet. The bank, or wall, is nearly twenty yards thick at the bottom, but decreases gradually towards the summit, where its thickness is about four yards. The area is commonly

* Gough's Camden, Vol. I.

monly covered with water: in one part, close on the south side, which credulity now represents as unfathomable, appears to have been the *cavea*,* or den, where the wild beasts were kept before they were let out into the *arena*.

"At about 300 yards from the walls is a bank and ditch, covering nearly two-thirds of the city: and about one mile and a half to the north-west, near a small village, called the *Soak*, are remains of a Camp; and half a mile from that village, a bank and ditch, of several miles extent, which may be part of a Roman road to Spinæ."† The country round Silchester is extremely wild and romantic, presenting a continued succession of hill and dale.

The road which leads from the south entrance of this ancient city to the north gate of Winchester, appears, from Stukeley, to have been called *Longbank*, and *Grimsdyke*; and that which leads by Andover to Old Sarum, to have been named the *Port-way*. Another road which issues from this station, on the north, crosses MORTIMER HEATH, at right angles with the Bath road, and has several tumuli on each side. About 1200 acres of this Heath, or Common, were inclosed during the year 1803, and if the inclosures then made, have not obliterated them, here are traces of several entrenched *Camps*, the largest of which is on the east side of the road leading to Reading. This is evidently of considerable antiquity, as the side running north and south, and which is the most perfect, is now the boundary line between the counties of Hampshire and Berkshire: its form appears to have been square. In the centre of the area, is a small barrow; and on the opposite side of the road, at the distance of about 100 yards, are several others. This was probably the scene of one of the many battles fought between the West Saxons and the Danes in the course of a year.‡ This opinion may be corroborated by a circumstance that has hitherto, we believe, escaped the researches of antiquaries. At a short distance from the Camp are two small farms, (now united,) one of which is called *Alfred's Acres*; and the

* See Vol. IV. p. 343. Note.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. I.

‡ Life of the Great Alfred, in Vol. I. p. 140, et seq.

the other, *Dane's Acres:* near the same spot are also several little cottages, one of which is constructed in a very peculiar manner, and bears the name of *Dane's House;* the timbers, or ribs, that compose the sides, are of solid oak, rising from the ground, and meeting in the centre, and thus assuming the appearance of the keel of a ship reversed: each rib is about two feet wide, and one thick. The length of this cottage is about thirty feet; its width at bottom, fourteen.

About five or six years ago, a somewhat similar *Phenomenon* was observed on this Heath, to that noticed under the description of the Souter-fell, in Cumberland.* Two gentlemen, from the vicinity of Reading, riding across it, (we believe in regimentals,) observed, as they thought, some *Soldiers on horseback,* galloping along the brow of a low hill, rising from a valley, which was partly involved in a mist, or fog. Surprised at the appearance of cavalry in this secluded situation, they hastened to the spot; but the objects *vanished* as they approached, leaving them strongly impressed with the singularity of the adventure. The operation of the same physical principles that occasioned the appearances on the Souter-fell, it is probable, gave rise to the phenomenon here described.

STRATFIELD-SAY, a seat of George Pitt, Lord Rivers, was anciently the property of a family named Say, by whose heiress it was conveyed in marriage to Sir Nicholas Dabridgecourt, Knt. who was Sheriff of Hampshire in the thirteenth of Richard the Second. In this family it continued till the reign of Charles the First, when it was purchased by Sir William Pitt, Comptroller of the Household, who made it his residence; and dying in 1636, was buried in the Parish Church. The late Lord Rivers, who was fourth in descent from Sir William, was created a Peer, by his present Majesty, in May, 1776. The House stands in an extensive Park, but rather low; though the scenery is pleasing, from the quantity of wood, which combining with a small stream that flows through the grounds, forms some good views.

About three miles south-west from Stratfield-Say, is the VINE, formerly a celebrated seat of the Lords Sandys, but now of William Chute,

* See Vol. III. p. 58.

Chute, Esq. one of the representatives for this county. "The Vine, by Basingstoke," says Leland, "was also of the auncient landes of the Sannes; but it was given owt in marriage to one of the Brokásses, and so remained ontil the late Lord Sandes, afore he was made Baron, recoverid it into his possession; at which tyme ther was no very great or sumptuous manor-place, and was only conteinid within the mote; but he after so translatid and augmented yt, and beside buildid a fair base court, that at thys time it is one of the principale houses in goodly building of all Hamptonshire."

Dugdale observes, in his Baronetage, that though none of the Sandys' family arrived at the dignity of the Peerage till the time of Henry the Eighth, yet they had superior rank among the gentry of Hampshire long before. Sir John de Sandys, Knt. was Sheriff of the county in the sixth of Richard the Second; and again in the eighteenth; as was also Sir William Sandys, Knt. in the twelfth of Henry the Fourth, and first of Henry the Sixth. The advancement of the family to wealth and honors, was, however, principally owing to the eminent services of Sir William Sandys, who, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, with many others of the English nobility, assisted the Emperor Maximilian against the French; and subsequently fought against the insurgents, who had advanced from the west to Blackheath, in the twelfth of that reign. In the fourth of Henry the Eighth, he was sent, with other brave Englishmen, to assist Ferdinand of Arragon, against the French; and in the fourteenth of the same reign, having been previously made a Knight of the Garter, he was constituted treasurer of Calais: in the same year, in concert with Sir Richard Wingfield, he had the command of the rear of the Earl of Surrey's army. The following year he was created a Baron, by the title of Lord Sandys; and soon afterwards led the vanguard of the army, commanded by the Duke of Suffolk, into France. After exercising various other important offices, he died in 1542, being then Lord Chamberlain of the King's household. His grandson, William, sat as one of the Peers on the trial of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, in the fifteenth of Elizabeth; and again, on the trial of the Queen of

 Scots,

Scots, at Fotheringhay; but in the forty-third of the same reign, he was himself imprisoned, for his concern in the insurrection raised in London by the Earl of Essex. He was twice married; his second wife was Catherine, daughter of Edmund, second Lord Chandois, who is celebrated by the Poet Gascoigne for her beauty, in the song '*On the fair Bridges*,' printed in Percy's Ballads. Elizabeth, his daughter by this marriage, married Sir Edward Sandys, Knt. and their son, Henry, succeeded to this estate. This gentleman was a Colonel under Charles the First, in whose cause he was mortally wounded, in the battle at Bramden, near Alresford, in this county. William, his son and successor, was obliged to part with this estate, which, about the year 1654, became the property of Chaloner Chute, Esq. an eminent lawyer, who was twice a representative for Middlesex, and also Speaker in the Parliament of Richard Cromwell; but the troubles of the times overpowering his strength of mind, he became indisposed, and, after lingering some time, died in 1659: his second wife was Lady Dacre, who survived him, and, after considerable litigation with his son and grandson, respecting jointure, obtained an order for the sequestration of the Vine estate, and other lands; but this was not acted on to its full extent, and the decree was afterwards reversed by Parliament. John Chute, Esq. who succeeded to this estate in 1754, and became Sheriff of Hampshire in 1757, was the friend of Walpole and of Gray, and was famed for his acquaintance with the arts. He died in April, 1776, and was succeeded by Thomas Lobbe Chute, Esq. of Norfolk, who had long before assumed the name of his mother, a collateral branch of this family: William, his son, and successor, is the present owner of this estate.*

Camden mentions the *Vine* as having derived its name from the vines introduced into this country in the time of the Emperor Probus. The situation of this seat is low; the grounds are not extensive, but well wooded; and a small stream of water crosses the lawn

* Additional particulars relating to the Sandys and Chute families, may be found in the Topographer, Vol. I. p. 51—61.

lawn that extends from the north front of the house. The mansion itself is a long range of brick building, with wings: many alterations have been made in it since the time of its erection, by the first Lord Sandys, and particularly by the Speaker Chute, under the superintendence of Webb and Inigo Jones. Further improvements were effected by the late John Chute, Esq. who fitted up the interior in a grand style, and erected a fine Grecian theatric stair-case, on a design of his own. He also began the small Chapel, or *Tomb-Room*, adjoining the ancient and curious *Chapel* in this mansion, which the first Lord Sandys repaired and embellished. On each side of this Chapel are stalls, or seats, curiously carved: the three windows at the east end, are glazed with fine painted glass, brought from Boulogne, together with most of the pavement, which consists of tiles of various sizes, each of them having a figure, motto, or device upon it. The three upper compartments of the windows contain subjects from the New Testament; the lower compartments have the figures of Francis the First, with his two wives, Claude and Margaret, and their tutelar Saints. In the Tomb-Room is an altar-tomb, erected to the memory of CHALONER CHUTE, Esq. who is represented in his robes as Speaker of the House of Commons by a recumbent figure, sculptured by Banks, from a painting by Vandyck, still preserved in this mansion; together with a painting by the same artist, of his second wife DOROTHY, Lady Dacre. Several curious marbles, brought from Italy by the late J. Chute, Esq. with Greek and Latin inscriptions, are preserved here.

The lower part of one of the wings is occupied as a Green-House, above which is a long *Gallery*, wainscotted with oak, and curiously carved with the arms, cyphers, and other devices, of most of the Nobility that composed the Court of Henry the Eighth in the time of Lord Sandys. Here are also a few full-length portraits: among them are HENRY THE EIGHTH; CHARLES BRANDON, Duke of Suffolk; SIR FRANCIS BACON, Lord Verulam; the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM; and a three-quarter length of a Nun, of the ancient family of the *Cufauds*.

At

At WEST, or MONK'S SHERBORNE, was a PRIORY of Benedictines, founded by Henry de Port, one of the Barons of the Exchequer in the reign of Henry the First, and soon afterwards given to the Abbey of St. Vigor, at Cerasie, in Normandy. After the dissolution of the Alien Priories, it was granted, by Edward the Fourth, to the Hospital called Domus Dei, at Southampton, as an appurtenance to which it now belongs to Queen's College, Oxford.

MALSANGER, in the parish of Oakley, was the family seat and birth-place of WILLIAM WARHAM, Archbishop of Canterbury in the reigns of Henry the Seventh and Eighth. He received the early part of his education at Wyckham's College, Winchester, and afterwards removed to New College, Oxford; where his assiduous attention to study procured him various promotions. His abilities were not more eminent in a civil than ecclesiastical capacity; and Henry the Seventh, with whom he was a great favorite, intrusted him with several important offices: so that he was at once a Divine, a Lawyer, and a Statesman. He was successively Keeper of the Rolls, Ambassador to Philip, Duke of Burgundy, Keeper of the Broad Seal, Bishop of London, Chancellor of England, and Archbishop of Canterbury: the latter situation he held from the year 1504 till the time of his death, in August, 1532; but many of his privileges were usurped by Wolsey, who supplanted him at Court, and sought every occasion to mortify him. His portrait has been engraved by Virtue, from an original and very fine painting, by Holbein, which is yet preserved in the Gallery at Lambeth Palace.

BASINGSTOKE

Is a large ancient and populous town, situated in a pleasant and well-wooded part of the county, and commanding a considerable trade from its standing at the junction of five great roads. In the Domesday Book, it is mentioned by the appellation *Basingtoches*, and is recorded as having always been a Royal manor; as never having paid tax, nor ever been distributed into hides: it is also noticed in that Survey, as having a market worth thirty shillings.

On the establishment of the woollen manufacture, Basingstoke obtained an extensive share in that business, and has been particularly noticed for its druggets and shalloons; but the manufacture of these articles has long ceased. The malting business is, however, carried on to a considerable extent, and employs a great number of persons.

The *Church* is a spacious and handsome structure, said to have been built under the auspices of Bishop Fox; it consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a low square tower: the south side of the Church is of stone, but the north side is constructed with alternate squares of stone and flint. On the spandrils, and over the doorway leading into the chancel, on the north side, are several shields, of different sizes, inscribed with the initials I. H. S. and other letters, of which an engraving has been given in Gough's Additions to the Britannia. The advowson of this Church,* with that of Basing, was granted, by Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, to the Priory of Selborne, and, with the other possessions of that foundation, was transferred, in the year 1459, to Magdalen College, Oxford, to which it yet belongs: the living is very valuable. Several of the Vicars have been eminent for their talents and learning. Among them, was *Sir George Wheeler*, the celebrated Eastern

* The annual ceremony of perambulating the boundaries of Basingstoke Parish, commences and concludes with the singing of a psalm, at the great elm tree, before the Vicarage House. This custom, which has been long neglected in most other places, is probably a remnant of the ancient ceremony alluded to in the following extract from Crossman's Introduction to the Knowledge of the Christian Religion. "At the Reformation, when all processions were abolished, the perambulations of the circuits of parishes were thought necessary to be retained; and it was ordered that the minister and substantial men of the parish, should walk about the bounds thereof, and at certain convenient places, should give thanks to God in the beholding of his benefits, for the increase and abundance of his fruits upon the earth, with the saying of the 104th Psalm; at which time also the minister is to inculcate this and the like sentences: 'Cursed is he that translateth the bounds and doles of his neighbours;' or, as we now read it, 'Cursed is he that removeth his neighbour's land-mark.'"

Eastern traveller, who founded a Library in a part of the Church said to have been originally dedicated to St. Stephen; and *Thomas Warton*, B. D. some time Professor of Poetry in Oxford University, and father of the celebrated Dr. Joseph Warton, and of his brother, the Rev. Thomas Warton; both of whom were born in this town.

Henry the Third founded an *Hospital* at Basingstoke, for the maintenance of aged and impotent Priests, at the request, and on the estate of, Walter de Merton, who was Lord High Chancellor of England, and afterwards Bishop of Rochester: he was also the founder of Merton College, Oxford, for the reception of the incurable fellows or scholars belonging to which, this Hospital was eventually appropriated.* It stood on the north side of the river, a little below the town bridge; some remains may yet be traced. The government of Basingstoke is vested in a Mayor, Recorder, seven Aldermen, seven Capital Burgesses, and other officers. The *Town-Hall* is a large and new edifice. Several *Schools* have been instituted here for the education of youth; particularly a *Free-School* of some repute; and a Charity School, in which twelve boys are clothed, and maintained at the expense of the Skinner's Company of London. According to the returns under the Population Act of 1801, the inhabitants of Basingstoke amounted to 2589; the number of houses to [illegible].

Basingstoke possesses a considerable trade in corn, the transit of which is greatly facilitated by a *Canal* that has been made from the river Wey, in Surrey, to this town, under the authority of an act obtained in the year 1778. The length of the canal to the river Wey, by which it communicates with the Thames, is thirty-seven miles and a quarter: the expense of cutting it amounted to about 100,000l. A large portion of this sum was expended in forming a tunnel, nearly three quarters of a mile in length, through Grewill Hill, near Odiham: the tunnel is arched, and lined with brick. Besides corn and flour, coals, timber, manure, and goods of almost every description, are conveyed to different parts of the

 country

* Tanner's Notitia.

country by this channel: the first barge arrived at the wharf at Basingstoke in January, 1794. Among the numerous projected advantages that led to the formation of the canal, was the presumed cultivation of Bagshot, and other heaths within the line of its course. The dividends have as yet been small, but are annually increasing.

On an eminence, at the northern extremity of Basingstoke, are situated the remains of *Holy Ghost Chapel*, so called from its having been connected with a brotherhood, or guild of the Holy Ghost, instituted by Sir William Sandys, Knt. afterwards first Lord Sandys, and Fox, Bishop of Winchester, under a license from Henry the Eighth. This fraternity was dissolved in the first of Edward the Sixth, and its possessions vested in the Crown; but in the first of Philip and Mary, a brotherhood was again established here, and the former possessions re-granted for "the maintenance of a Priest for the celebration of divine service, and for the instruction of the young men and boys of the town of Basingstoke." About the commencement of the reign of James the First, the brotherhood became extinct; and during the confusions of the Civil Wars, the Chapel estate was seized by the Parliament, and the School shut up; but through the care of Bishop Morley, the estate was again restored, about the year 1670.

The site of this Chapel is traditionally said to have been occupied by a religious structure from the period of the Saxon times; and though the present building is generally ascribed to the above Sir William Sandys, the opinion of a celebrated draughtsman and antiquary,* seems to countenance the report of its having been erected much earlier. "The style of the architecture," he observes, "appears of the day of Edward the Fourth. The design, though small, is much enriched; and among the ornaments, are many of the Roman and Grecian turn, which shows that examples of this sort had been earlier introduced among us than is generally understood: however, it is not impossible, but that many of the carvings,

* Mr. Carter, in his Pursuits of Architectural Innovation; see Gent. Mag. Nov. 1802.

carvings, with some shields of arms, were added in the reign of Henry the Eighth, in consequence of repairs or alterations then taking place." Camden describes it as having been erected by Sir William Sandys, and particularly mentions the roof, as being excellently adorned from scripture history. The only parts now standing are the south and east walls, with an hexangular tower at the south-west angle, in which was formerly a stair-case. On the piers between the windows on the south side, are long narrow pedestals, with niches rising above them. The angles of the tower are similarly decorated: the walls are of brick, cased with freestone. The effect arising from the elevated situation of these ruins is very beautiful. The building appears to have been first dilapidated in the Civil Wars, and has been almost entirely neglected ever since. The large regular apartment to the westward of the Chapel, is supposed, by Mr. Carter, to have been the body of an ancient Church, "to which the Chapel was attached, constituting the chancel or choir." Camden affirms, that Sir William Sandys was buried in this Chapel, but no traces of his tomb remains. In the adjoining burying-ground, which is here called the *Liten*, are several defaced inscriptions in memory of the *Cufauds*, a respectable family, who were allied to the Plantagenets, and had been settled at Cufaud, near the Vine, from the early Norman times.* Here also, are several inscriptions to the *Blundens*, of Basingstoke, none of whom are now remaining: one of these deserves preservation from the elegant Latin in which it is written.

H. S. E.

GUILIELMUS BLUNDEN, GEN.

Guilielmi Blunden de Basingstoke generosi filius unicus
Novi Collegii Oxon superioris ordinis Commensalis
Florentissimi istius Societatis grande Ornamentum,
Totius etiam Academiæ Deliciæ,
Honorabilis societatis Hospitii Graiensis studens,

 Egregio

* The Cufaud estate was purchased by T. L. Chute, Esq. the late proprietor of the Vine, above thirty years ago.

Egregio asmodum Ingenio, Moribus, Prudentia;
Et, quod raro alias repertum est, inter cæteras
Animi dotes Modestia singulari,
Erga Patrem pius, omnium amans, ab omnibus amatus:
Sed vitam ejus diuturnam facere non poterant
Quæ fecerunt desideratum,
Ut qui occidit immaturam, Variolum spolium,
Et Triumphus Mortis nulli bono
Nimium Dolendus.
Obiit 10 Jan.—1706.
Ætat. Suæ—25.

Among the eminent natives of Basingstoke, the first that occurs in order of time, is JOHN DE BASINGSTOKE, or *Basingstochius*, who became of great repute towards the middle of the thirteenth century; and, as was then customary, assumed his sirname from the place of his birth. He was highly eminent for virtue and learning; for having a strong and vigorous understanding, he so improved it by study, that, besides acquiring a "perfect knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, he became an eloquent orator, a complete mathematician, a subtle philosopher, and a sound divine." He commenced his studies at the University of Oxford; but, for further improvement, went to Paris, where he resided some years, and afterwards travelled to Athens, "the seat of the Muses, and mother of all polite literature." Here he greatly increased his knowledge, particularly of ancient Greek literature: and, on his return to England, he brought with him several curious Greek manuscripts, and introduced the use of the Greek (Arabic) numerals. He also translated a Greek Grammar into Latin, intituling it the 'Donatus of the Greeks,' in order to facilitate the study of the former language. He was highly esteemed for his learning; and was particularly favored by the celebrated Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, who preferred him to the archdeaconry of Leicester. He died in the year 1252; the twenty-sixth of Henry the Third.*

RICHARD

* Biographia Britannica, Vol. I. p. 669, 670.

RICHARD WHITE, called also *Basingstochius,* a Romish exile, and Regius Professor at Douay in the time of James the First, was likewise a native of this town. He wrote a 'History of Britain,' with valuable notes, 'from the first planting of this nation to Brute, and so on to Constantius, and Cadwallader, in nine books:' this history was much commended by the learned Selden.

SIR JAMES LANCASTER, an eminent navigator in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and James the First, was born at Basingstoke, where also he was buried in the year 1617, having bequeathed several legacies to his native place. He was one of the earliest traders to the East Indies, and gave his own name to a sound in Baffin's Bay.

DR. JOSEPH WARTON, F. R. S. was born at Basingstoke, about the year 1722, and very early imbibed a distinguished fondness for letters, from the instructions and pursuits of his reverend father, who has been already mentioned as a Vicar of this parish. He then became a Student at Winchester College, and afterwards was elected Master; a situation that he continued to fill for a number of years, with great and deserved celebrity. His knowledge of classical literature was very extensive, and, combined with his benevolence, and amiable temper, procured him numerous friends among the most cultivated classes of society. His poetical talents were good, but were chiefly confined to the production of short pieces, of which, perhaps, his Ode to Fancy is the best, and has been most admired. His *Essay on the Writings and Genius of Pope* is an excellent work, and remarkable from the circumstance of the first volume having been printed nearly thirty years before the second and last was submitted to the public. In the year 1797, appeared his edition of the Works of Pope, in nine volumes, octavo, with notes critical and illustrative: this, though bearing evident marks of haste, is the best edition of that Poet that has yet been published. He died in March, 1800; deservedly regretted by a very large circle of acquaintance.

The Rev. THOMAS WARTON, B. D. the late Poet Laureat, was born here in the year 1728; and received the rudiments of instruction at the School, of which his father was then Master. At the age

of fifteen he was admitted a Commoner, and soon afterwards was elected a scholar at Trinity College, Oxford. His attachment to books, and the early maturity of his mental powers, were very unusual; and he was quickly distinguished as well by various poetical productions, as by his critical acumen, and knowledge of classical literature. His literary undertakings were many: his editions of Theocritus, and of the smaller poems of Milton, are highly curious and valuable. His most eminent production is the *History of English Poetry*, in three volumes, quarto; though not completed to the extent proposed, as a fourth volume was in the press at the time of his decease. He also published *Observations on the Fairie Queen of Spenser*, two volumes, 1762; and a *History of the Parish of Kiddington*; the latter of which is regarded as one of the best specimens of a parochial history ever published. He died at Oxford, in May, 1790; having long previously been chosen a Fellow of Trinity College, and made Camden Professor of History in that University. His disposition was amiable, and his acplishments great and varied. He was considered, observes his biographer,* and editor of his poetical works, "as one of the chief literary characters of his age; equal to the best scholars in the elegant parts of classical learning; superior to the generality in literature of the modern kind; a Poet of fine fancy, and masculine style; and a critic of deep information, sound judgment, and correct taste."

At a short distance west from Basingstoke is an ancient *Encampment*, the proper name of which appears to be WINCLESBURY; though several other appellations have been given to it. The embankment is about 1100 yards in circumference, but no traces of a ditch are visible; it has two entrances, respectively west and east: its form is an irregular oval, approaching to an oblong square.

BASING, or OLD BASING, a small village, about two miles north-east from Basingstoke, is memorable for a bloody battle fought here between the Danes, and the Saxons commanded by King

* Richard Mant, M. A. Fellow of Oriel College.

King Ethelred and his brother Alfred, in the year 871, in which the latter were defeated. It became still more famous, however, from the gallant stand made against the forces of the Parliament, in the reign of Charles the First, by John Paulet, Marquis of Winchester, a lineal descendant from Hugh de Port, who, at the period of the Domesday Survey, held fifty-five lordships in this county. Basing was the head of these extensive possessions, and appears to have been very early the site of a Castle, as mention of the 'land of the *Old Castle* of Basing,' occurs in a grant made by John de Port, to the neighbouring Priory at Monk's Sherborne, in the reign of Henry the Second.* William, his grandson, assumed the surname of St. John; and Robert, Lord St. John, in the forty-third of Henry the Third, obtained a 'license to fix a pole upon the bann of his moat at Basing, and also permission to continue it so fortified during the King's pleasure.'† In the time of Richard the Second, Basing, with other estates of this family, was transferred, by marriage, to the *Poynings;* and again in the time of Henry the Sixth to the *Paulets*, by the marriage of Constance, heiress to the former, with Sir John Paulet, of Nunny Castle, in Somersetshire.

Sir William Paulet, Knt. third in descent from this couple, created Baron St. John, of Basing, by Henry the Eighth; and Earl of Wiltshire, and Marquis of Winchester, by Edward the Sixth; was a very polite nobleman, and greatly in favor at Court through most of the successive changes that occurred in the reigns of Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth. He held the office of Treasurer nearly thirty years, sustaining himself by the courtly maxim of "being a willow, and not an oak." He rebuilt the Castle at Basing in a magnificent and even princely style, so much so indeed, that Camden, in allusion to the vast expense of living entailed on his family by its splendor, observes, that "it was so overpowered by its own weight, that his posterity have been forced to pull down a part of it." Here, in the year 1560, he entertained Queen Elizabeth,

* Gentleman's Mag. Aug. 1787. † Ibid.

with 'all good chear,' and so much to her satisfaction, that she playfully lamented his great age; "for, by my troth," said the delighted Sovereign, "if my Lord Treasurer were but a young man, I could find in my heart to have him for a husband, before any man in England."* This nobleman died in 1572, at the age of ninety-seven, having lived to see 113 of his own immediate descendants; he was buried in Basing Church.

William, his great grandson, and fourth Marquis of Winchester, had likewise, in the year 1601, the honor of having Queen Elizabeth for a guest, and that for a period of "thirteen dayes, to the *greate charge* of the sayde Lorde Marquesse." During her residence here, the Duke of Biron, accompanied by about twenty of the French nobility, and a retinue of nearly 400 persons, were lodged at the Vine, the seat of Lord Sandys, which house had been purposely furnished with hangings and plate from the Tower, and Hampton Court, "and with sevenscore beds and furniture, which the willing and obedient people of the countrie of Southampton, upon two dayes warning, had brought in thither to lend the Queene."† When Elizabeth departed from Basing, she affirmed, that "she had done that in Hampshire, that none of her ancestors ever did, neither that any Prince in Christendome could doe: that was, she had in her progresses in her subjects' houses, entertained a Royal Ambassador, and had royally entertained him."‡ This Marquis died in 1628, at Hawkwood, now Hackwood, the present seat of his descendants.

John, his son, the fifth Marquis of Winchester, was the brave nobleman who rendered his name immortal by his gallant defence of BASING HOUSE, in the cause of Charles the First, during a tedious siege and blockade, or rather a succession of them; which, with short intermissions, continued upwards of two years. The Journal of the Siege was printed in Oxford, in 1645, and is said, by Granger, to be one of the most eventful pieces of history during the Civil War. The investment commenced in August, 1643;

* See Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, Vol. I. p. 56.

† Ibid. Vol. II. p. 5. ‡ Ibid, Vol. II.

1643; the first material assaults were made by Sir William Waller, who thrice within nine days attempted to take it by storm, but was repulsed, and obliged to retreat with great loss to Farnham.

This repulse was only the prelude to a more obstinate investment by the Parliamentary forces of Hampshire and Sussex, who were united under the command of Colonel Norton, of Southwick, in this county. The summons to surrender was contemned by the Marquis, who was heard to observe, that "if the King had no more ground in England than Basing House, he would maintain it to the uttermost." Occasional sallies were made by the besieged, and with much success; but provisions failing, the Marquis sent for succour to Oxford, where the King then held his councils. The difficulty of the enterprise, as all the country between Abingdon and Basing was in the possession of the Parliament, who had also strong garrisons at Abingdon and Reading, rendered his first solicitations ineffectual; yet, on his sending a last express, with a positive assurance that famine would compel him to surrender in ten days, it was determined to attempt his relief; and the brave Colonel Gage was, at his own request, intrusted with the execution of this dangerous service.

On the night of September the ninth, 1644, the Colonel left Oxford with a strong party of horse and foot, many of whom were volunteers; and being strengthened at Wallingford by an additional body of about 100 persons, marched with celerity to Aldermaston, where he arrived on Tuesday evening, and rested his troops from eight till eleven. Here they were discovered to be Royalists from the imprudence of the Commander of a troop of horse, who had been sent before to collect refreshments, and who, forgetting the orange tawny scarfs and ribbands by which they had disguised themselves, had betrayed their real colors by attacking, and making prisoners, of some of the Parliament's horse. On the next morning, between four and five, the Colonel had arrived within a mile of Basing, where he halted his men; and, on the almost immediate receipt of a letter from Sir William Ogle, Governor of Winchester, who had engaged to make a diversion in his favor, but now declined it from the extreme danger, held a council

of his officers, in which it was determined to attack the besiegers in an undivided body; though this was contrary to the original design. For this purpose the troops were arranged in battalions, and marched rapidly towards Basing House; but they had advanced only a short distance, when the Parliament musqueteers commenced a smart fire from the hedges; and beyond them, on a rising ground, five cornets of horse were seen, drawn up in good order, to receive the assault. The charge made by the Royalists was, however, so furious, that they immediately gave ground, and fled to a considerable and safe distance. The foot disputed the attack with greater spirit; but were at length obliged to retire, from hedge to hedge, and, after a hard contest of two hours, were also driven from their works on that side on which the attack commenced, and a complete passage was opened with the besieged.

The Colonel having saluted the Marquis, and supplied him with ammunition, immediately marched into Basingstoke, where the Parliament committees had previously sat, and where he found considerable quantities of provision, of which he sent as much to the garrison as he could obtain means of conveyance for, together with forty or fifty head of cattle, and 100 sheep. At night, the Colonel retired with all his force into Basing House, whence, on the ensuing morning, he again dispatched his horse and foot to Basingstoke, as well to procure them refreshments, as to continue to supply the garrison with necessaries. In the course of the day, he received intelligence that Colonel Norton was drawing his forces together, with intent to fall on his rear on his return to Oxford; and that the Parliament's troops from Abingdon, Newbury, and Reading, were also assembling, to dispute his passage over the river Kennet. On this he determined to commence his retreat the same night; but, to deceive the enemy, drew all his troops to the Basing House as before; and sent orders, which he knew must fall into their hands, for the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages to supply certain proportions of corn by the next day noon, on pain of having their houses destroyed by fire. The scheme succeeded; and about eleven, he began his march, and crossed the Kennet, undiscovered, by a ford near Burghfield Bridge; the bridge itself

having been previously broken down. The ensuing morning, Friday, he forded the Thames near Pangbourn, and arriving at Wallingford in safety, quartered there for the night: the next day he returned to Oxford. His whole loss, in completing this gallant enterprise, was only eleven killed, and between forty and fifty wounded.

The blockade and siege of Basing House were immediately re-commenced: in about two months the garrison was again in distress for provision; and Colonel Gage, who had now received the order of knighthood, was a second time chosen to afford it relief, with a party of 1000 horse. Each trooper was to carry a bag of corn, or other provisions; and, on reaching Basing House, was to cast it down, and the retreat to be then commenced in the best order possible. This enterprise was also completely successful, though by a different means than had been conjectured; for the Parliament's troops had raised the siege the day before the Colonel's arrival, and retired into winter quarters.

The final investment of Basing House appears to have been undertaken by Cromwell, who took it by storm in October, 1645, and burnt it to the ground, in despite of the *Aimez Loyaulté*, which the Marquis had written with a diamond in every window, and which has ever since been the motto of the family arms. The plunder obtained on this occasion, is said to have amounted to 200,000l. in cash, jewels, and rich furniture.* The number of soldiers slain before the walls, from the first commencement of the siege, is recorded to have been upwards of 2000.

It appears, from a survey made in the year 1798, that the area of the works, including the garden, and entrenchments, occupied about fourteen acres and a half. The form was extremely irregular; the ditches very deep, and the ramparts high and strong: some

* There is a traditionary report, that the garrison was partly surprised, through some of the troops being engaged at cards when the assault commenced; and we have been informed, that the card-players of the neighbourhood have a common saying of, '*Clubs trumps, as when Basing House was taken.*'

some of the remains are yet very bold and striking. The citadel was circular, having an oblong square platform on the north, defended by a rampart and covered way. The north gateway is yet standing, together with parts of the outward wall, and is constructed with brick, jointed with great care and nicety. The site of the ruins is particularly commanding: the canal from Basingstoke has been cut through a part of the works; and the outward entrenchments have been rendered very obscure and imperfect, from some late improvements in the grounds. The medium depth of the fosse which surrounded the citadel, is about thirty-six feet perpendicular.

The brave Marquis, whose property was thus reduced to ruin in the cause of his Sovereign, lived till the Restoration, but received no recompense from an ungrateful court for his immense losses. During the latter part of his life, he resided at Englefield, in Berkshire, and was there buried in the parish Church: the epitaph on his monument was written by the poet Dryden, and is as follows:

He, who in impious times undaunted stood,
And midst rebellion durst be just and good;
Whose arms asserted, and whose sufferings more
Confirm'd the cause for which he fought before;
Rests here:—rewarded by an heav'nly Prince
For what his earthly could not recompense.
Pray, reader, that such times no more appear,
Or if they happen, learn true honor here.
Ark of this age's faith and loyalty,
Which to preserve them, Heav'n confin'd in thee.
Few subjects could a King like thine deserve;
And fewer such a King so well could serve.
Blest King, blest Subject, whose exalted state
By sufferings rose, and gave the law to fate.
Such souls are rare; but mighty patterns given
To earth, and meant for ornaments to Heav'n.*

The

The first wife of the Marquis was Jane, the very accomplished daughter of Thomas, Viscount Savage: she was the mother of Charles, first Duke of Bolton, but died in the delivery of her second child. An epitaph to her memory was written by Milton.

"Summers

The Marquis, who died in 1674, was succeeded in his estates and titles by his eldest son, Charles, of whom Granger gives the following character. "This Nobleman, when he saw that other men of sense were at their wits' end, in the arbitrary and tyrannical reign of James, (the Second,) thought it prudent to assume the character of a madman, as the first Brutus did in the reign of Tarquin. He danced, hunted, or hawked, a good part of the day; went to bed before noon, and constantly sat at table all night. He went to dinner at six or seven in the evening, and his meal lasted till six or seven the next morning; during which time he eat, drank, smoked, talked, or listened to music. The company that dined with him, were at liberty to rise, and amuse themselves, or to take a nap, whenever they were so disposed; but the dishes and bottles were all the while standing upon the table. Such a man as this was thought a very unlikely person to concern himself with politics, or with religion. By this conduct, he was neither embroiled

"Summers three times eight, save one,
She had told; alas! too soon,
After so short time of breath,
To house with darkness, and with death.

* * * *

"Once had the early matrons run
To greet her with a lovely son;
And now with second hope she goes,
And calls Lucina to her throes;
But whether by mischance, or blame,
Atropos for Lucina came;
And with remorseless cruelty,
Spoil'd at once both fruit and tree.
The hapless babe, before his birth,
Had burial, yet not laid in earth,
And the languish'd mother's womb
Was not long a living tomb.

* * * *

"Gentle lady, may thy grave
Peace and quiet ever have,

broiled in public affairs, nor gave the least umbrage to the court; but he exerted himself so much in the Revolution, that he was, for his eminent services, created Duke of Bolton: he afterwards raised a regiment of foot for the reduction of Ireland." He died at the age of sixty-nine, February the 27th, 1698. This Nobleman chiefly resided at Bolton Hall, in Yorkshire, an estate which he acquired by marriage with Mary, a natural daughter of Scrope, Earl of Sunderland; the Hall was built by himself. In his time also, *Hackwood*, now the principal seat of Lord Bolton, was first fitted up as a family residence.

Charles, son of the above, and second Duke of Bolton, assisted, like his father, in the great work of the Revolution; and was one of the Noblemen appointed at Exeter, in November, 1688, to manage the revenues of the Prince of Orange, as Sovereign of England. Besides receiving various honorable appointments in the intermediate years, he was constituted one of the Lords Justices of Ireland in 1697. In 1706, he was appointed a Commissioner to settle the terms of the Union between England and Scotland. In 1714, he was chosen a Knight of the Garter; and three years afterwards was declared Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He died in January, 1721-2, in his sixty-second year. By his first marriage with Frances, daughter of William Ramsden, Esq. of Byrom, in Yorkshire, he had two sons, Charles, and Harry, who were successively Dukes of Bolton.

Charles, the eldest, and third Duke, was installed a Knight of the Garter, in November, 1722; and, like his father, was appointed to several high offices in the state. This Nobleman was twice married: on the death of his first wife, from whom he had long been separated, he wedded the celebrated Lavinia Beswick, or Fenton, more known by the name of *Polly Peachem*, from her celebrity in the performance of that character in the Beggar's Opera. It is uncertain, observes a modern author,* "whether the opera itself, or Polly Peachem, had the greater share of popularity. Her lovers, of course, were very numerous; she decided in favor of

* Lysons's Environs of London, Vol. III. p. 482.

of the Duke of Bolton, who, to the great loss of the public, took her from the stage, to which she never returned." She survived the Duke six years, and died Duchess Dowager of Bolton, in January, 1760.*

Harry, the fourth Duke, succeeded his brother in his honors and estates, in August, 1754, having previously represented the county of Southampton in five successive parliaments. He died in October, 1759, and, like his grandfather, left two sons, both of whom succeeded to the Dukedom. Charles, the fifth Duke, carried the Queen's crown, at the coronation of their present Majesties. He died, unmarried, in July, 1765, in his forty-seventh year. Henry, his brother, and last Duke of Bolton, died at the age of seventy-four, in the year 1794. The Basing and Hackwood estates became the property of the present Lord Bolton in right of his wife, the daughter of Charles, fifth Duke of Bolton, agreeably to the entail created by the latter.

Basing Church is a large, ancient, and curious structure, standing at a short distance from the site of Basing House, and consisting of three aisles, with a tower rising from the centre: in a niche, at the west end, is a figure of the Virgin Mary: the roof is supported by round arches, springing from massive columns. This edifice, as appears from a Latin inscription in the north aisle, was repaired in the year 1519, by Sir John Paulet, Knt. father of the first Marquis of Winchester, whose arms appear on various parts of the building. The above SIR JOHN PAULET, with his father, JOHN PAULET, Esq. and their respective wives, lie buried beneath two open-arched tombs, one on each side the chancel. Beneath the south aisle is the family vault of the Paulets, in which all the six

* The rapid increase in the salaries of actors, can hardly be better illustrated, than by a reference to the wages of this Lady. When her performance of Polly Peachem had obtained the unqualified approbation of the town, the Manager, Rich, increased her salary from *fifteen* to *thirty shillings* per week, that he might secure her continuance at his theatre. We now read of a boy of thirteen, being secured in the receipt of 6000 guineas for performing fifty-one nights: what an astonishing difference!

six Dukes of Bolton, with many of their noble relations, are deposited. Various banners, with impalements of the arms of the different families allied to the Paulets, remain hanging in the aisle, with fragments of others that are nearly destroyed. A mural monument has also been erected in this Church, to the memory of FRANCIS RUSSEL, Esq. a native of Basingstoke, and Fellow of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies, who assisted Mr. Nichols in his History of Leicestershire: he died at the age of fifty-five, in September, 1795.

About two miles south-west from Old Basing, is HACKWOOD PARK, the seat and property of Thomas Orde Poulett, Baron Bolton, in right of his lady, as before observed. The Park is very extensive: the surface is boldly irregular, and partakes of the beautiful character of the neighbouring chalk downs. The scenery is picturesque; and the views are diversified by large groves of fine oak, ash, and beech trees, interspersed with thorns of extraordinary size and luxuriance. The soil is peculiarly congenial to the beech trees, which rise to an immense height, with boles of uncommon girth, and large and spreading branches: these trees, covering large tracts, both in the park, and on a contiguous farm, assume, when seen at a distance, the appearance of an extensive forest.

The House is situated towards the western boundary of the park, and encompassed by about 100 acres of pleasure grounds, disposed into lawn, terrace, shrubbery, and a noble wood, bearing the name of Spring Wood, in which are many of the finest trees of the whole demesne. Over these the mantling ivy has been suffered to grow; and, by its rising to the highest branches, and thence hanging in rich and loose chains of thick foliage, it produces a very singular effect of beauty; and even in winter, it greatly tends to enliven and animate the gloom of the season. Various alterations, on a liberal and extended scale, have been made in the pleasure grounds, by Lord Bolton, particularly on the south, which had been originally arranged in the old style, by terraces, flights of steps, with pedestals and statues, leading to a great reservoir of water, and terminated by angular ramparts, bastions, &c. the views from the house were also intercepted by high yew-tree hedges,

skirting

skirting long and formal avenues. By the late improvements, Nature has regained her rights; the avenues have been broken into walks and glades, and several distant views admitted. At the southern extremity of the reservoir, upon a very elevated pedestal, still stands an equestrian statue of George the First, but intended to be removed to a spot opposite the centre of the north front: this statue was a gift of the King to the Duke of Bolton, who had been honored with his Majesty's notice and correspondence before he succeeded to the Crown.

In the wood near the house are two ornamental buildings, used in the summer for purposes of recreation. One of these is in a part, called, and formerly used as, a menagerie for aquatic birds; and there is still within its circuit a considerable sheet of fine water. This building has a very handsome front of the Doric order, with an open colonnade in the centre, and a small, neat apartment, on each side; the whole assuming the appearance of a vestibule. The other building is situated in a part called the French Garden; and the grounds immediately surrounding it, were, indeed, formerly twisted into shapes, which fully entitled it to that appellation. It consists of four equal fronts, with a central dome, having somewhat of the heavy character that marked the general style of its architect, Sir John Vanbrugh. The apartment within is spacious, and is handsomely stuccoed, and paved with marble. This is said to have been used as a music room, during the time of the third Duke, and was then devoted to the vocal exercise of the celebrated Polly Peachem. The wild umbrageous vistas opening from three of the fronts, and decorated with flowering shrubs, and double blossoming fruit trees, are striking and beautiful.

The lower parts of the wood are in a state of wild and luxuriant nature, with coppice plants and shrubs, sheltered beneath great and lofty timber trees. In the midst of this wilderness, is a space containing above four acres, assuming the form of a vast ancient theatre, the boundary of which is composed of elms closely planted, and rather inclining inward, so as to project their lofty heads, and extended branches, over the sides and ends of the area: the stage is a flat lawn, at the lower end, from which seats of turf gra-

dually rise in sweeping divisions, leaving one grand broad passage in the middle, from the bottom to the top, which terminates in a large circular recess, having in the midst the ruins of a circular Grecian temple, which, from the remains, appears to have been constructed with great elegance. The most striking view of this theatre is obtained from the entry through the thicket at the bottom of the stage.

The whole of these pleasure-grounds, with the adjoining parts of the park, are thought to have formerly composed one large wood; and it appears to have been connected with Basing House and Castle, by long avenues of chesnuts, some of which still exist; and long stems, of considerable height, have grown up from the undecayed parts of others. It was then appropriated to the favorite diversion of hawking; and the name which it seems originally to have borne, was *Hawking Wood;* though now, by a corrupt abbreviation, rendered Hackwood. The Park is animated by between 500 and 600 head of deer: the only part, indeed, in which it seems deficient, is in the want of a continued expanse of water, though several reservoirs, and small sheets, exist in different parts. Even this, however, is intended to be remedied, by the introduction of a stream from some very abundant springs, which rise about half a mile distant on the north, and form the chief sources of the river Loddon.

The Mansion was originally a Lodge, built in Queen Elizabeth's time, and used as a place of meeting for the company assembled for the purpose of hawking, and as a Banquetting Room after the sport was over. the Lodge now forms the central part of the building. After the demolition of the principal seat at Old Basing, some habitable substitute seems to have been formed out of the ruins of the lower house; and here John, Marquis of Winchester, and his son, afterwards first Duke of Bolton, occasionally resided. Hackwood appears to have been completed about the year 1688, as the great exterior pipes from the roof, the cisterns, cheeks and backs of grates, &c. bear that date. The general form of the house, as then altered, was a large central building, connected with two considerable wings by open corridors. Various alterations have since

since been made; and in the time of the last Charles, Duke of Bolton, the great Hall, which, in its original state, was open from the ground-floor to the roof, had a new floor introduced at the height of twenty feet: the space below it was, at the same period, adapted to the reception of some very fine old wainscot, that was brought from Abbotstone,* near Alresford, and had been enriched by a great deal of most excellent carving by Gibbons. Various other improvements were also then made; the corridors were closed in; and some good offices were erected, together with the stables, and a spacious riding-house. Notwithstanding these alterations, the mansion was found in many respects inconvenient, when it came into the possession of Lord Bolton, who has, in consequence, commenced the execution of a plan for essentially improving the accommodations; and which, among other objects, embraces the erection of a new front on the north, about twenty-four feet from the present, and to be connected with the old wings by a sweep of more grace and utility. By this means, an excellent entrance Hall will be formed, forty feet, by twenty-four; several of the old apartments will be enlarged, and various new ones added, so as to render the whole a handsome and complete family residence. Among the numerous portraits in this mansion are these: a Head of the first MARQUIS OF WINCHESTER, on pannel, in the style of Holbein.

A full-length of the MARCHIONESS OF WINCHESTER, second wife to John, the fifth Marquis. This lady was distinguished for courage and prudence, like the celebrated Blanche, Lady Arundel. She valiantly aided in the defence of Basing Castle; and also wrote a journal of the proceedings relating to the siege: the Castle was taken during her absence.

A full-length of JOHN PAULET, fifth Marquis of Winchester. A small oval portrait has been engraved of this Nobleman, by Hollar, who also engraved a small view of Basing House, which is

 extremely

* Abbotstone was a vast pile of building, that had been inhabited by the first Duke of Bolton: it was pulled down by the above Charles, the fifth Duke.

extremely rare. Mr. Gilpin states, that Hollar made his escape from Basing when it was taken by Cromwell.

Full-length portraits of KING WILLIAM in his robes of state; and of GEORGE THE FIRST. These pictures were given by the respective Monarchs to the first Duke of Bolton.

A three-quarter portrait of the third DUKE OF BOLTON, who married Miss Fenton.

About one mile north-west from Odiham, at North Warnborough, are the remains of ODIHAM CASTLE, the origin of which is anterior to the reign of King John, when it belonged to the See of Winchester, and became celebrated for its resistance against the army of Lewis, the Dauphin of France. Though only garrisoned by three officers and ten private soldiers, it sustained a siege of fifteen days, and was then only surrendered by its brave defenders, on condition of retaining their freedom, their horses, and their arms.* In the twenty-seventh of Edward the First, anno 1299, it was granted, together with the Town, Park, and Hundred of Odiham, to Queen Margaret, as part of her dower, but becoming again vested in the Crown, was afterwards several times re-granted to different persons; and at length finally bestowed, in the fifteenth of James the First, on Edward Lord Zouche, and his heirs for ever, together with the "Hundred, Lordship, and Manor of Odyham," and all their appurtenances. The extensive property of Lord Zouche in this neighbourhood, was purchased, about sixty years ago, out of the Court of Chancery, into which it had been thrown on the demise of the last representative of the Zouche family, by the late Sir Paulet St. John, grandfather to Sir H. P. St. John Mildmay, the present owner.

The original extent and form of the Castle cannot now be ascertained; the fragments that remain, are those of the Keep, which was an octagonal building: some of the ditches may yet be traced. Here David Bruce, King of Scotland, who was made prisoner at the battle of Neville's Cross, near Durham,† was confined for eleven years; and only obtained his release, by paying 100,000 marks, and giving hostages for his future conduct.

ODIHAM

* Matthew Paris. † See Vol. I. p. 228; and Vol. V. p. 198.

ODIHAM

Is a small corporate and market-town, and was formerly a free borough, belonging to the Bishops of Winchester. The parish is very extensive, and includes some of the best arable land in this quarter of the county. In one part of it hops are cultivated with great success: the lands have been inclosed under an act passed in the year 1791. The number of houses in Odiham, was returned under the late act, at 186; that of inhabitants, at 1058. At the courts-leet, which are held here, the Constables, and other officers, are chosen for many of the adjoining villages. At Odiham was formerly a Royal Palace, and park: the only part that remains has been converted into the residence of a farmer, and still retains the name of *Palace*, or *Place Gate*. The Church is a large ancient structure, built with brick; and near it is an old Alms-house. A little west of the Church is an immense chalk pit.

Odiham was the birth-place of the celebrated grammarian WILLIAM LILLY, who was born about the year 1466. He became a student at Magdalen College, Oxford, which he quitted when he had attained the degree of B. A. and went to Jerusalem; and, on his return, studied the Greek language at the Isle of Rhodes. He afterwards travelled to Rome, to perfect himself in the knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages, under the learned men, Sulpitius, and Pomponius Sabinus. In 1509, he returned to England; and having fixed on the Metropolis as his place of residence, taught grammar, poetry, and rhetoric, with so much success, that in 1510, he was appointed first master of St. Paul's School, by its founder, Dean Colet. in this situation he became the instructor of several of the greatest men that this country has produced. He was intimate with the most erudite men of his time; and obtained the particular eulogiums of Erasmus, for his skill in languages, and grammatical science. He died of the plague in the year 1522. He published several valuable works in the Latin tongue; but his *Latin Grammar* was the most successful, and has descended even to our own times.

Between one and two miles south-east from Odiham is DOGMERSFIELD PARK, the seat and property of Sir Henry Paulet St. John Mildmay, Bart. Member of Parliament for Winchester. This gentleman is paternally descended from the Ports, Lords of Basing, and maternally from William de St. John, a Norman Chieftain, who accompanied the Conqueror to England, and whose name occurs in the roll of Battle Abbey. John, his second son, who, on the death of his brother, inherited his father's lands, was one of the twelve Knights that accompanied Robert Fitz-Hamon, in his expedition against the Welsh, and was rewarded for his services with the Castle of Falmont, or Faumont, in Glamorganshire. His grand-daughter, Mabil, married Adam de Port, Lord of Basing; and their son, William, assumed the name of St. John, writing himself *Willielmus de Sancto Johanne Filius & Hæres Adæ de Port.* Oliver St. John, fifteenth in descent from this William, on his decease, left an only daughter, named Frances, married to her first cousin, Ellis Mewe, Esq. who assumed the name of St. John, in consequence of succeeding to that part of the family possessions that were situated at Farley St. John, in Hampshire. On the death of Frances, he married secondly, Martha, daughter of John Goodyer, in whose right he became possessed of the estate and residence at Dogmersfield. His great grand-son, married to Jane, daughter and co-heiress of Carew Mildmay, of Shawford House, in this county, is the present owner: he assumed the name of Mildmay in 1790, on succeeding to the estates of the late Carew Henry Mildmay, Esq. of Haslegrove, in Somersetshire.

The mansion at Dogmersfield is a very extensive building, standing on an eminence, in a Park containing about 700 acres, and, independent of the home prospects, commanding on the south and east, some distant views of the open country. It has two fronts, and contains several spacious and elegant apartments, decorated with some good paintings of the Italian, Venetian, and Flemish schools. In the Library is a very valuable collection of books; amounting to upwards of 5000 volumes, among which are a choice selection of Topographical works. From the pictures, the following may be selected as the most eminent.

Twelve

Twelve Views of Venice, and its Neighbourhood; Cannaletti.
Rembrandt's Mistress, and an Old Man's Head; Rembrandt.
Landscape, small, yet highly finished; Claude Lorraine.
Bacchanalians; Titian.
Cattle and Figures; Cuyp.
Light Landscape and Figures; Bergham.
Landscape and Figures; Both.
Bacchanalians; N. Poussin.
Belshazzar's Feast; Old Franks.
Landscape and Figures; A. Van de Velde.
Sea Piece with Figures; W. Van de Velde.
JAMES THE FIRST, full length; Rubens.
PRINCE RUPERT; Sir Peter Lely.
VILLIERS, Duke of Buckingham; C. Jansen.
D. TENIERS, and Tenier's Wife and Child; Teniers.
LADY MILDMAY and Child, and Mr. P. MILDMAY; Hopner; exhibited 1803.
Head of RUBENS; a copy by Van Dyck.
ERASMUS; Holbein.
Landscape and Figures; Pynaker.
Inside of a Church; P. Neefs.
Two Views on the Thames; Scott.

The Park includes a great diversity of ground, and is very beautifully wooded, the present possessor having embellished it with several plantations, in addition to its woods of ancient growth. The Shrubbery and Pleasure Grounds were laid out by Emes. Near the house is a lake of about forty-four acres. Immediately adjoining the Park, lies an extensive Common, covered with oak trees and hollies, and in many parts bearing a striking resemblance to the New Forest. In the new plantations, made by Sir H. Mildmay, very considerable attention has been given to the cultivation of ash timber, and with so much success, that the rapid growth of it in some places is scarcely credible.* The ash plants, when put into

* In one of the plantations, a spot of ground, about an acre in extent, the soil consisting of a moist loamy sand, was planted, six years ago,

into the ground, are of three years growth from the seed: the land, so planted, is then allotted in proportions of about half an acre, to different poor families in the neighbourhood, who are suffered for three years to cultivate potatoes among them at certain distances; at the expiration of which time, the ash plants are generally risen to the height of six or nine feet. A certain number of the most promising are then left for timber, and the remainder cut down for stools, which, from the contiguity of the hop plantations, become extremely profitable.

The Archbishops of Canterbury had a *Palace* at Dogmersfield as early as the twelfth century; and here Jocelyn Fitz-Jocelyn, who was translated from the See of Bath and Wells in 1190, died in the following year: some extensive foundations, supposed to belong to this building, were lately discovered at no great distance from the present mansion.

In the parish of HARTLEY WINTNEY, was a Cistercian* NUNNERY, reputed to have been founded in the time of the Conqueror. It contained a Prioress, and seventeen Nuns, about the period of the Dissolution, in the time of Henry the Eighth, when its possessions were valued, according to Dugdale, at 43l. 3s. 0d. per annum; but according to Speed, at 59l. 1s. 0d.

BRAMSHILL, the principal mansion in the parish of Eversley, is situated on a bold eminence, in a spacious Park, and forms one of the most commanding features of this county. It was the residence of the last Lord Zouche, and is reported to have been built by him as a palace for Prince Henry, son of James the First; but whether from the untimely death of that Prince, or some other cause, it was never completed to the extent proposed. The centre part only was finished: had the whole been executed according to the original design, it would have been one of the most splendid and

ago, with ash, &c. taken from a nursery; and about two feet high. Many of them are now from eighteen to twenty feet high; and one of the most flourishing already measures twelve inches in circumference at the base.

* Tanner. Dugdale calls it a Benedictine Nunnery.

and striking edifices in the kingdom: the present proprietor and inhabitant, is the Rev. Sir Richard Cope, B. D.

ELVETHAM, about one mile to the south of the well-known inn at *Hartford Bridge*, was formerly a place of considerable extent and magnificence, and celebrated from a splendid entertainment given here by the Earl of Hertford to Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1591: The entertainments were continued through the space of four days; and, in addition to the delights of the table, consisted of a splendid display of pageantry, intermixed with discharges of artillery and fire-works, and enlivened by music, dancing, and singing; with occasional orations spoken by the characters in the pageants. The fulsome adulation paid to the doting Queen, may be exemplified by one of the ditties sung on this occasion, by the sea nymphs, and which may be regarded as a fair specimen of the poetry of that age.

THE SEA NYMPHES DITTIE.

How haps that now, when prime is don,
Another spring-time is begun?—
Our hemisphere is overrunne
With beauty of a second Sunne!

Eccho. A second Sunne.

What second Sunne hath raies so bright,
To cause this unacquainted light?—
'Tis fair ELIZA's matchlesse grace,
Who with her beames doth blesse the place.

Eccho. Doth blesse the place.

The beauty and virtues of the maiden Sovereign, were the grand themes that larded the daily festivities; and, on the departure of the Queen, the sum of her perfections were thus emblazoned in a two-part song:

O come againe, fair Nature's treasure!
Whose lookes yeeld joyes exceeding measure.

O come againe, Heav'n's chiefe delight!
Thine absence makes eternall night.

O come

O come againe, World's star-bright eye!
Whose presence doth adorne the sky.

O come againe, sweet Beauties Sunne!
When thou are gone, our joyes are done.

The Queen was so highly satisfied with her entertainment, that she promised the Earl her especial favor; and, indeed, every thing that pomp could devise, and money procure, had been obtained to gratify her. Various buildings, for the accommodation of her retinue, had been raised in the Park, as well as artificial mounts for the better display of the "sports and pastimes." Nymphs and tritons, sylvan gods and goddesses, Neptune and Oceanus, the Hours and the Graces, were alike employed to thread the mazes of the dance, and strew the way of the virgin Queen with flowers.*

William, Marquis and Earl of Hertford, grand-son of the Nobleman who thus entertained Elizabeth, sold Elvetham to Robert Reynolds, Esq. whose daughter and heiress, Priscilla, married Reynolds Calthorpe, Esq. from whom the present owner, Henry Gough Calthorpe, Baron Calthorpe, is maternally descended. The Mansion, which had been considerably reduced by the late Sir Henry Gough, and greatly dilapidated from neglect, has been lately repaired, and rendered an eligible residence: it is now inhabited by Lieut. Gen. Gwynne. The Park and grounds, which include an area of about two miles in circumference, were much improved by Mr. Emes, the landscape gardener, who had a lease of this estate for twenty-one years. several of his alterations have been since obliterated.

EWSHOT, in the parish of Crundel, is the seat of Henry Maxwell, Esq. but was formerly the principal residence of the *Giffords*, one of the most ancient and eminent families in Hampshire, some of

* A particular description of these festivities was printed in the same year they took place, under the title of "The HONORABLE ENTERTAINMENT, given to the QUENE'S MAJESTIE, in Progress, at ELVETHAM, in HAMPSHIRE, by the Right Honorable the EARLE OF HERTFORD." This has been re-printed by Nichols in his Queen Elizabeth's Progresses.

of whom were Sheriffs of the county in different reigns, from that of Henry the Sixth, to that of Elizabeth. It was afterwards a seat of the *Bathursts*, who possessed it for several generations. The Mansion is spacious, and the grounds diversified and beautiful: they were laid out by the celebrated Brown. The country in the vicinity is finely varied, and well-wooded.

ALTON

Is a respectable market-town, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Wey. Here Sir William Waller, in December, 1643, obtained some advantage over the forces of Lord Hopton, who had taken post in the town: the regiment commanded by Colonel Bowles retreated to the Church; but not having time to barricade the doors, threw down their arms, and surrendered; but the Colonel himself refusing quarter, was slain on the spot. The *Church* is a small, but neat building. The number of houses, as ascertained in 1801, was 388; that of inhabitants, 2026: some of the latter derive employment from the manufacture of corded stuffs, serges, &c. In this vicinity are several excellent hop plantations.

Alton has given birth to WILLIAM DE ALTON, a Dominican Friar, who lived in the time of Edward the Second, and wrote on the Universality of the Pollution of Mankind by Original Sin; to John Pitts, the famous Biographer; and to the late celebrated Botanist, William Curtis.

JOHN PITTS was born in the year 1560, and received his education at Wyckham's College, Winchester. Having embraced the Catholic religion, he afterwards left England as an exile, and went to Douay: he then taught rhetoric, and the Greek language at Rheims, and was made Canon of Verdun by the Cardinal de Lorraine: he died in the year 1616. He was author of the work, *De Illustribus Angliæ Scriptoribus*, printed in 1619, and containing an account of the most famous writers of this Island from the year of the world 2879, to A. D. 1612.

WILLIAM CURTIS, the Botanist, was the son of a respectable quaker and apothecary, who instructed him in his own profession,

and also in the elements of botany, by the assistance of the writings of Gerard, and Parkinson. In his twentieth year, he left his native place for the Metropolis, where one of his first pursuits, independent of medicine, was the study of medals; but the great expense of forming a collection, occasioned him to return with more ardor to natural history, and he very quickly distinguished himself in the science of entomology. This study induced him, by a natural transition, to a more attentive investigation of the plants from which insects derive their support, and, like the immortal Linnæus, he obtained an intimate knowledge of their characters and habitudes; though his progress was impeded by the pressure of various difficulties. As his acquaintance with botanical science increased, his original profession became irksome, and he at length quitted it altogether, though not till after he had commenced his great work, the *Flora Londinensis*. He then formed a botanical garden near the Magdalen Hospital, that he might the more readily trace the progress of vegetation, and minutely investigate its varied products, as well as to enable him to impress his lessons more forcibly on the minds of his pupils. The great expenses which attended the publishing of the Flora Londinensis, led him to project the *Botanical Magazine*, which, though less scientific than the former, became more profitable, and enabled him both to surmount pecuniary difficulties, and to form a more extensive establishment at Brompton. Here, as before, his plants were systematically arranged; and his gardens were opened for the advantage of the scientific, at a small annual subscription. He died in July, 1799, aged about fifty-three years; having for upwards of a twelvemonth previously complained of a great difficulty in breathing, and other internal pains, which gradually exhausted the powers of life.*

Between three and four miles south-west from Basingstoke, is the Manor and Park of KEMPSHOT, the ancient seat of the Pink family, of whom ROBERT PINK, who attained celebrity for his acquaintance with philosophy and divinity, was born here in the reign

* This biographical sketch is condensed from a more extended memoir in the Gentleman's Magazine for July, 1799.

reign of Queen Elizabeth. He afterwards became Warden of New College, Oxford, of which he had been admitted perpetual Fellow in 1596; and on his death, in 1647, was buried there in the outer Chapel. The last of his family sold Kempshot about forty years ago, and it has since passed through various hands to J. C. Cooke, Esq. the House is a large and handsome brick building.

POPHAM was the ancient seat of, and gave name to, the family of Popham, who afterwards extended themselves into Somersetshire and Wiltshire, and some of whom were Sheriffs of this county in the reigns of Edward the Third, Richard the Second, and Henry the Sixth: the principal branch of this family became extinct in the time of the latter.

STRATTON PARK, an estate formerly belonging to the Dukes of Bedford, was a favorite hunting residence of the late lamented Marquis of Tavistock, who is said to have had a large part of the ancient mansion here pulled down, lest his successors should prefer it to Woburn. It now belongs to Sir Francis Baring, Bart. who is making considerable improvements in the house and grounds.

GRANGE PARK, near Northington, was the seat of the *Henleys* for nearly a century and a half, and till their extinction on the death of the late Earl of Northington; after which, the estate was sold by his sisters and co-heiresses, to Henry Drummond, Esq. a celebrated Banker. The House was built by Sir Robert Henley, Master of the King's Bench Office, from the designs of Inigo Jones; and Horace Walpole pronounces it one of his best works. Its situation is low: the grounds are varied and beautiful. The Henleys had great interest in this county: Anthony Henley, who married a daughter of James, second Earl Berkeley, was a wit of considerable fashionable celebrity: Robert, his brother, who succeeded him, was bred to the bar, and appointed Lord Keeper in 1757: in 1760, he was created a Peer by the title of Baron Grange; and four years afterwards, he was made Earl of Northington. Robert, his son, the second and last Earl, died unmarried, in 1786.

ALRESFORD,

OR NEW ALRESFORD, as it is sometimes called, to distinguish it from a village of the same name, a short distance to the north,

was given, by King Kenewalch, to the Church at Winchester: it appears to have been a market and borough-town from time immemorial; and is recorded to have once returned a single representative to Parliament. Bishop Lucy, about the year 1220, re-established the market, which had decayed. On May-day, 1690, most of the town was destroyed by fire, which broke out in several parts at once. In 1710, it was again burnt down; and has since been a third time destroyed in a similar way. The houses, as returned under the late act, amounted to 196; the number of inhabitants to 1132: the market is principally held for the sale of corn and sheep. The management of the police is vested in a Bailiff, and eight Burgesses.

Alresford Pond, to the south-west of the town, is a noble piece of water, covering about 200 acres, and forming a head to the Itchin river. This source of supply owes its origin to Bishop de Lucy, who completed it under a charter from King John, and, by means of locks and aqueducts, rendered the river navigable from Alresford to Winchester, and thence to Southampton Water. The head of the pond is formed by an immense mole or causeway, nearly 500 yards in length, and formerly serving as part of the main road to London, but disused since the year 1753, when the new road was made through Bishop's Sutton. In recompense for this vast and expensive work, De Lucy obtained for himself, and his successors, the entire Royalty of the river from this reservoir to the Sea, besides other privileges. Several boats are kept on this lake by the proprietors of the neighbouring estates; and the breed of swans, and other water fowl, being encouraged on it, its surface frequently assumes a very cheerful and animated appearance. At OLD ALRESFORD the late Lord Rodney built a handsome mansion, which now belongs to his son Colonel Rodney.

TICHBORNE, about three miles south from Alresford, is the property and seat of Sir Henry Tichborne,* Bart. a descendant from one of the oldest families in the kingdom, and which was seated

* This name is contracted from *De Itchin-Bourne,* alluding to the situation of the manor on the chief spring of the Itchin River.

seated here previous to the Conquest. Sir Roger de Ticheburne, who possessed this Lordship in the reign of Henry the Second, was a bold and daring knight, and several of his descendants have been eminent for similar qualities. Sir Benjamin Tichborne, who lived in the reigns of Elizabeth and James the First, has been already noticed for his spirited conduct in proclaiming the latter, King of England.* Richard, his eldest son, and successor, was sent by Charles the First, on an embassy to the Queen of Bohemia. On his death, Henry, his youngest and only surviving son, succeeded to the estates and title; but was sufficiently unfortunate to be implicated in the sham plot of the infamous Titus Oates, and was committed to the Tower, where he continued a prisoner for some years. In 1685, about a year after, he obtained his enlargement; and was made Lieutenant of the Ordnance. Since this period, the family have not been employed in state affairs, on account of their adherence to the Catholic Religion.† The ancient family mansion, called TICHBORNE HOUSE, has been just pulled down; it was a very venerable building, and of great age: the new house is a handsome edifice.

At the village of COLMERE, was born, in the year 1602, JOHN GRAVES, the renowned Astronomical and Mathematical Professor. His father was Rector of the parish; and had four sons, all of whom became eminent from their talents and learning.‡ John, the eldest, the subject of the present sketch, was equally, with his brethren, indebted to his reverend parent for the early instructions by which he acquired a taste for knowledge, both scientific and classical. At the age of fifteen, he was entered of Baliol College,

* See under Winchester, p. 45.

† The present Sir Henry Tichborne has been detained a prisoner in France from the commencement of the present war.

‡ Of these, NICHOLAS, the Elder, was Proctor of Oxford University in 1640, and afterwards Dean of Dromore in Ireland; THOMAS, the second, was Canon of Peterborough; and EDWARD, the youngest, was Physician in Ordinary to Charles the Second, who created him a Baronet.

lege, Oxford; but afterwards removed to Merton College, for the greater advantage of his mathematical and philosophical pursuits. Here, following the estimable practice recommended by the immortal Verulam, he sought the arcana of Nature through the medium of experiment, and obtained so much reputation, that in 1628 he was admitted perpetual Fellow of his College, and obtained the degree of Master of Arts. To increase his knowledge of the mathematics he studied the Oriental Languages, and at length determined to explore the fountains of science in the countries from which they sprung; and receiving pecuniary assistance from Archbishop Laud, he quitted his native land for Egypt in the year 1637. Visiting Rome in his progress, he became acquainted with the venerable Kircher. He afterwards proceeded to Padua and Venice; and again embarking at Leghorn, sailed for Constantinople, where he experienced a most flattering reception from the illustrious Patriarch Cyril Lucar, who greatly assisted him in his search after valuable Greek and Arabic manuscripts; to purchase which, at whatever price, he had obtained a commission from his patron, Archbishop Laud. Proceeding to Egypt, he contemplated the antiquities of Alexandria, where his minute investigations delayed him for several months. The Pyramids, or Sepulchres of the Egyptian Kings, were the next objects of his research; and his interesting observations on these stupendous monuments were published in 1646, under the title of *Pyramidographia.* Having gratified his thirst for knowledge in ancient lore, as far as circumstances would permit, and formed an ample collection of gems, statues, manuscripts, &c. he again embarked for Europe in 1639. Four years afterwards he was appointed Savilian Professor of Astronomy; and as the estates charged with the support of that Professorship had then suffered from the fatal scourge of Civil War, he was permitted to retain his Fellowship; though, according to the Savilian Statute, it should have been vacated within six months after his acceptance of the vacant chair. On the triumph of the Parliament, he suffered in the general fate of the Royalists, and was expelled from the University, which he quitted with deep regret. He then repaired to London; and, to render a trifling

patrimony

patrimony adequate to his maintenance, commenced the publication of his writings. He died in 1652, soon after the completion of his fiftieth year, and was interred in St. Bennet's Church. Several of his works were made public after his decease, and others are yet in manuscript: a complete list of his productions has been given in the first volume of the Hampshire Repository. His death is thought to have been hastened by his incessant application to study, and by the anguish of mind that followed his expulsion from College.

At SELBORNE, a sequestered but pleasant village on the western skirts of Woolmer Forest, was a PRIORY of Canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, founded by Bishop Peter de Rupibus, in the year 1232. The original endowments were but small; yet in the century succeeding its establishment, a very large proportion of the contiguous lands were annexed to its possessions. The first considerable benefactor after the founder, was Sir Adam Gurdon, a bold and daring outlaw, who supported the Barons in the troublesome reign of Henry the Third; and even after the defeat and death of their leader Montfort, Earl of Leicester, fed the flames of war from his own resources. His residence appears to have been at TEMPLE, in this parish; and to this vicinity he retired, and entrenched himself in the woods towards Farnham, on the discomfiture of his party. Occasionally quitting his fastnesses, he spread desolation and terror through the adjacent country; till the fame of his deeds having determined the gallant Prince Edward to effect his downfall, he was attacked in his camp by a body of forces, commanded by the Prince in person. Finding all lost, he endeavored to escape; but being pursued by Edward, was overtaken, wounded, and thrown to the ground. The magnanimity of the Prince was equal to his bravery; and his greatness of mind determined him to convert an enemy to a friend: he raised the fallen veteran, pardoned him, and introduced him to the Queen, who was then at Guildford, that very evening. This unmerited and unexpected lenity melted the heart of the rugged Gurdon at once; he became in an instant a loyal and useful subject, was trusted and employed in matters of moment by Edward, when King, and confided in till the day of his death.

 Among

Among the gifts made by Gurdon to the Priory, was that of a piece of land near the Church, called the *Pleystow,* or Play-place, now the *Plestor;* this was no sooner granted, than the Prior procured a charter for a market from Henry the Third, anno 1271, and Selborne became a market-town; but how long it enjoyed that privilege is uncertain. The Priory continued to flourish till the fifteenth century, when dissentions arising among the Canons, it was gradually deserted, and at length dissolved, and its possessions granted, by Bishop Waynflete, to Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1482; the suppression was confirmed in the second year following by Pope Innocent the Eighth. The Priory buildings have all been entirely demolished. Among the relics in the possession of the Canons, was enumerated 'a bone of the little finger of St. John Baptist.'*

In the Saxon times, Selborne was a Royal manor; and Editha, Queen of Edward the Confessor, is mentioned in the Domesday Book, as a former owner: that record also notices a *Church* here; and it is probable that the low massive columns that support the roof of the present fabric were parts of the ancient edifice. The tower is embattled: the whole building is low and plain, consisting of three aisles, with a kind of transept, or chantry, on the north side. The altar-piece is decorated with an excellent painting by Albert Drurer, representing, in two compartments, the offerings of the Magi: this was presented to the parish by the late Rev. Gilbert White, the celebrated Historian of Selborne.† The number of inhabitants of this parish as enumerated in 1801, was 762; that of houses 127. *Cornua Ammonis* are frequently found near the village; and fossil shells are very common in the surrounding district.

At SOUTHINGTON, formerly *Sudington,* about one mile east of Selborne, was a PRECEPTORY of Knights Templers, who are conjectured

* White's Antiquities of Selborne; from Mat. Paris; et Triveti Annale.

† The Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne, by this gentleman, is a very entertaining and instructive work. It was originally published in quarto; but the Natural History has been lately separated from the Antiquities, and published in two volumes 8vo.

conjectured to have had the Gurdon manor-house, and manor of Temple, bestowed on them by Johanna, daughter of Sir Adam Gurdon, above-mentioned: this Preceptory is not noticed by Bishop Tanner.

In the marshy bottoms of WOOLMER FOREST, many subterraneous trees have been found, and dug up with the peat; and during the dry summer of 1741, the extensive sheet of water called *Woolmer Pond,* having been dried up by the heat, its bed was carefully searched, and many hundreds of Roman coins, and some medallions, were discovered in it: among them were many of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, and of the Empress Faustina.

PETERSFIELD.

THOUGH only a Chapelry to Buriton, is a market and borough town, of considerable antiquity, and now chiefly supported by the passage of travellers, it being situated on the high road to Portsmouth. Its first charter of incorporation was granted by Queen Elizabeth, who vested its government in a Mayor and Commonalty, and empowered them to return two members to Parliament; two returns had, however, been previously made; the one in the thirty-fifth of Edward the First; the other in the time of Edward the Sixth. The right of election, as determined by a committee of the House of Commons, in the year 1727, "is in the freeholders of lands, or ancient dwelling-houses or shambles, or dwelling-houses or shambles built upon ancient foundations, within the said borough:" the number of voters is about 150. Near the Chapel is an equestrian statue of WILLIAM THE THIRD, standing on a lofty pedestal, and inscribed to his memory by the late William Jolliffe, Esq. of much fame in the political annals of this borough. The number of houses in this parish, was returned under the clauses of the Population Act, at 208; that of inhabitants at 1159.

MAPLEDURHAM, about two miles south of Petersfield, was the seat, and some time residence, of the historian Edward Gibbon, Esq. whose father purchased the estate in the reign of George the First from the heirs at law of Ralph Bucknal, Esq. and it was

 afterwards

afterwards confirmed to him by the trustees of the South Sea Company. The manor has since been sold to Lord Stawell; and again to Henry Bonham, Esq. At BUTSER HILL, a short distance to the south, Aubrey places a considerable *Camp*.

A few miles to the west from Petersfield, are the villages of EAST and WEST MEON, mentioned in the Domesday Book as the property of the Bishop of Winchester, and then known by the general name of *Mene*, or *Menes*. In the *Church* at East Meon is a very ancient FONT, bearing an exact resemblance to that in Winchester Cathedral,* and most probably the work of the same artist, and given by the same Bishop.† The upper part, or bason, is placed on a circular shaft of three large single stones, and its corners are supported on circular pillars without bases, and having capitals of plain upright leaves.

At WARNFORD, in the grounds belonging to a seat long occupied by the late Marquis of Clanricarde, is a venerable ruin of an ancient mansion, corruptly called KING JOHN'S HOUSE, but more properly *St. John's House*, from its having been the property of the St. Johns, Lords of Basing, who inherited it from the De Ports. This ruin is about eighty feet long, and fifty-four wide; its walls are four feet thick, and constructed of flint set in grout work. It is divided into two apartments; the largest was probably the Barons' Hall, and measures forty-six feet by forty-eight. Four well-proportioned columns, with their bases and capitals entire, and four half columns let into the east and west walls, appear to have supported the vaulted roof, now wholly down; most of the arches of the windows and doors are circular. In some maps, of as distant a date as 1610, this is marked as a ruinated place; and in writings which belonged to the Marquis of a still earlier date, it is named the *Old House*. Grose, and some other antiquaries, have imagined it the shell of the original Church erected here on the spreading of Christianity; but the two Latin inscriptions, on the walls

* See its description, p. 75, *et seq.*

† Walkelin, who was himself the founder of East Meon Church.

walls of the present *Church*, which stands within about twenty yards, though quoted in support of this opinion, are demonstrative of the contrary: both of them refer to Adam de Port; and both of them evince, that the building on which they appear, was rebuilt, or renovated, on the ancient site. The tower of the present Church is also in a different order of architecture from the other parts, which are in the pointed style. On OLD WINCHESTER HILL, a considerable eminence rising south from Warnford, some writers have placed a *Roman Camp*.

UPHAM, about three miles north-westward from Bishops Waltham, was the birth-place of DR. EDWARD YOUNG, the far-famed author of the *Night Thoughts*. He was born in June, 1681: his father was then Fellow of Winchester College, and Rector of this parish; but he afterwards resigned his fellowship, and was appointed Chaplain to King William and Queen Mary, and made Dean of Sarum. The Dean placed his son upon the foundation of Winchester College, where he had himself been educated: from this seminary, in his nineteenth year, he was removed to New College, Oxford: hence, he removed to Corpus Christi College; and again, in 1708, to All Souls, where he was nominated to a law fellowship by Archbishop Tennison. In 1714, he took his degree as Bachelor of Civil Laws; and five years afterwards, his Doctor's degree. His application and learning may be inferred from a singular speech of the atheist Tindal, who spent much of his time at All Souls, and used to argue with him on topics of religion. "The other boys," said Tindal, "I can always answer, because I always knew whence they have their arguments, which I have read a hundred times; but that fellow, Young, is continually pestering me with something of his own." Young, however, is most known as a poet; and though ambition prompted him to venture upon the troubled sea of politics, he obtained from it but little celebrity, and no promotion. In May, 1731, he married Lady Elizabeth Lee, daughter to the Earl of Lichfield, and widow of Colonel Lee, by whom she had had three children; one of whom, who has been always considered as the poet's Narcissa, died in her seventeenth

year, at Nice, and, as Young's biographer* expresses it, in her *bridal hour*. Her husband, the Philander of the Night Thoughts, was Mr. Temple, son of Lord Palmerston; he died shortly after the decease of his bride, and soon afterwards Lady E. Young followed her much-lamented relatives: how nearly together their deaths occurred the poet himself informs us.

> Insatiate archer! could not one suffice?
> Thy shaft flew thrice, and thrice my peace was slain
> And thrice, ere thrice yon moon had fill'd her horn!

To the sorrow Young felt at his losses, the world is indebted for the *Night Thoughts*. By his marriage he had one child, whom calumny has marked as the infidel Lorenzo; yet, with how little justice, will at once be felt from the remark, that he was but a boy of eight years of age when the character of Lorenzo was written! Of the other poems of Young, the *Universal Passion* is characterized by Dr. Johnson as a very great performance. "His species of satire (observes the English moralist) is between those of Horace and of Juvenal; he has the gaiety of Horace, without his laxity of numbers; and the morality of Juvenal, with greater variation of images." Of his three tragedies, the *Revenge* is incontestibly the best: his *Busiris* is too remote from Nature to satisfy the judgment; and his *Brothers* is strikingly insufficient in most of the qualities of dramatic writing. Of his prose works, the *Centaur not Fabulous*, has obtained the principal share of the approbation of posterity. He died in the year 1765, at the age of eighty-four.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM,

SAYS Leland, "is a praty tounlet. Here the Bishop of Winchester hath a right ample and goodly maner-place, motid about, and a praty brooke (the Hamble) running hard by it. The maner-place hath been of many Bishops' building; most part of the three

parts

* The Rev. (now) Sir Herbert Croft, by whom it was written for Dr. Johnson to be published in his edition of the Poets.

parts of the base court was buildid of brik and timbre by Bishop Langton; the residew of the inner part is all of stone." This manor, which includes Waltham Chace, has belonged, from time immemorial, to the See of Winchester: *Semper fuit de Episcopatu*, is the memorandum concerning it in the Domesday Book. The town is still small, as in Leland's time, but enjoys a good trade, and sends large quantities of leather to Guernsey and London, and to the neighbouring fairs. The population of this parish in 1801, was returned at 1773; the number of houses at 191.

The Bishop's PALACE, or CASTLE, is situated on the south-west side of the town, and still exhibits traces of its ancient magnificence. It was originally built by Bishop Henry de Blois, brother to King Stephen; but was altered and repaired by many succeeding Bishops. Much of its grandeur was probably owing to the architectural taste of William of Wykeham, who made it his favorite residence, and here terminated his active career at the age of eighty. The area of the outer or base court, which, according to Leland, was built by Bishop Langton, is now a farm-yard: the remains of several brick chimnies, apparently of the time of that prelate, are still to be seen on the north side. The Great Hall, in the second or inner court, the front wall of which remains almost entire, was sixty-six feet in length, twenty-seven in width, and twenty-five high, and lighted by five large windows of magnificent proportions: the ruins are mantled with ivy. Besides the Hall, here are the remains of a tower, about seventeen feet square. This Castle was demolished in the Civil Wars: the Bishop's park is now a farm.

In the early part of the last century, this neighbourhood was infested by a notorious gang of deer-stealers, who, from their custom of blacking their faces before they sallied forth to commit their depredations in the adjacent forests, obtained the name of WALTHAM BLACKS. So strange was the infatuation, indeed, that, for a time, no young person, unless he was a *Hunter*, to use their own phrase, was allowed to be possessed of either manhood or gallantry.*

 At

* White's History, &c. of Selborne, p. 17, 18.

At length the atrocities practised by some of the confederates became so great as to demand the interference of the Legislature; and in the ninth of George the Second, anno 1723, an act was passed to restrain their enormities. Severity was necessary; but this act, called the *Black Act*, has another character; it is sanguinary, and now comprehends more felonies than any law that has ever been previously framed for domestic regulation. For this reason, the late Bishop Hoadley, when urged to re-stock Waltham Chace, refused, observing, that "it had done mischief enough already."*

The road over Waltham Chace conducts to the pleasant village of WICKHAM, anciently the manor and seat of the family of Uvedale, one of whom, Nicholas Uvedale, deserves to be remembered with gratitude by the *Wyckhamists*,† because that, when Constable

* White's History, &c. of Selborne, p. 17, 18. The *Waltham Blacks* are said, by some writers, to have received their name from carrying on their depredations in Waltham Forest, in Essex; but this is evidently a mistake. The preamble to the *Black Act* is as follows: "Whereas several ill-designing and disorderly persons have of late associated themselves under the name of *Blacks*, and entered into confederacies to support one another in stealing and destroying of deer, robbing of warrens and fish-ponds, cutting down plantations of trees, and other illegal practices; and have, in great numbers, armed with swords, fire-arms, and other offensive weapons, several of them with their faces blacked, or in disguised habits, unlawfully hunted in forests belonging to his Majesty, and in the parks of divers of his Majesty's subjects; and destroyed, killed, and carried away the deer; robbed warrens, rivers, and fish-ponds; cut down plantations of trees; and have likewise solicited several of his Majesty's subjects, with promises of money, and other rewards, to join them; and have sent letters, in fictitious names, to several persons, demanding venison and money, and threatening some great violence, if such, their unlawful demands, should be refused; or if they should be interrupted in, or prosecuted for, such their wicked practices; and have actually done great damage to several persons who have either refused to comply with such demands, or have endeavoured to bring them to justice, to the great terror of his Majesty's peaceable subjects: Be it therefore enacted," &c.

† *Wyckhamist* is the colloquial name assumed by all that have been educated in the College founded by Wyckham, at Winchester.

stable of Winchester Castle, he became the patron of WILLIAM OF WYCKHAM, their great founder; and, in conjunction with Bishop Edyngton, first introduced him to Edward the Third. Wyckham was born here in the year 1324; his origin was humble, but his talents and address were superior to those of the majority of his fellow-men. Under the patronage of Edward, his genius could not fail to exert its powers: the Monarch loaded him with preferment, and the Bishop proved himself worthy of his Sovereign's favors; for never did a mitre adorn the brow of a more illustrious and munificent prelate. His skill in architecture was very great; and most of the great works executed in the latter days of Edward, were done under his direction. In 1364, he was made Keeper of the Privy Seal; and two years afterwards, Bishop of Winchester, which he held till his death in 1404.*

The Church at Wickham is a neat structure, with some remains of Anglo-Norman architecture at the western entrance. WICKHAM CORNER, the Parsonage-house, in which Dr. Warton passed the evening of life, is agreeably situated at the eastern extremity of the village. Several other pleasant seats ornament this vicinity.

From Wickham a sandy and gravelly road leads along the skirts of the Forest of Bere to SOUTHWICK, where was formerly a PRIORY of Black Canons, which became of some historical celebrity, from its having been the scene of the marriage of Henry the Sixth with Margaret of Anjou.† The Priory was originally built at Porchester, by Henry the First, in the year 1133, but was shortly afterwards removed to Southwick, where it continued to flourish till the period of the Dissolution. Its privileges were extensive; and in 1235, the Canons procured the grant of a market and a fair to

* For additional particulars relating to this Prelate, see Vol. I. p. 202, and Vol. VI. p. 53, 81.

† A curious picture of these nuptials was engraved to illustrate Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting. Kemp, Archbishop of York, is represented holding the *pallium* over the conjoined hands of Henry and Margaret: among the attendants are Cardinal Beaufort, and the Dukes of Glocester and Suffolk.

to be held here, but the former has been long disused: they also obtained liberty of free-warren in the year 1321. At the Dissolution, the annual revenues of this establishment were, according to Dugdale, valued at 257l. 4s. 4d. but, according to Speed, at 314l. 7s. 10d. The site and demesnes of the Priory were then granted to John White, Esq. and his wife Catherine; and descended from them, by the female line, to Colonel Norton, who signalized himself in behalf of the Parliament during the Civil Wars, and whose family had long resided at Southwick, in great respectability. His grandson, Richard, the last male heir, was celebrated for his extraordinary will, by which he bequeathed Southwick, and all his other estates, to the amount of 6000l. per annum, together with personal property of the value of 60,000l. to the Parliament of Great Britain, in trust for the use of "the poor, hungry, thirsty, naked strangers, sick, wounded, and prisoners, to the end of the world." The will was afterwards set aside, from the evident marks of insanity which appeared to have dictated its clauses. The late owner of these estates was Robert Thistlethwayte, Esq. maternally descended from the Nortons. SOUTHWICK PARK, now the seat of —— Ellis, Esqr. includes the site of the Priory, only a small part of which now remains. The Manor-house is a large building of some antiquity, having two wings terminating in gable ends, and embattled. In this edifice two Monarchs have been entertained; Charles the First, and George the First. The former was here when the Duke of Buckingham, whom he had accompanied thus far from London, was assassinated by Felton at Portsmouth.

PORTSDOWN HILL is a narrow, lofty eminence, running east and west for nearly seven miles: the upper part consists of chalk, broken into vast hollows; the lower part is a brown loam. The prospects from the summit are of great extent, and considerable variety. On the south, it commands a noble view of the British Channel, which is lost only in the mist of distance, with its majestic feature the Isle of Wight, which is here seen through nearly its whole length. The dark blue tints of the New Forest mingle with the horizon in the west: on the north, the eye commands the extensive

tensive Vale of the Forest of Bere; not as in ancient times, impervious and inaccessible, but agreeably interspersed with inclosures, corn-fields, and cottages; and on the east, the graceful spire of Chichester Cathedral appears rising above the level of the wolds of Sussex. To enliven and animate the whole, multitudes of ships and vessels, of every denomination and size, are seen navigating the channel, or remaining stationary in the harbour and Dock-yard of Portsmouth. On the eastern extremity of Portsdown, a Telegraph was erected during the last war. On Portsdown Hill, an annual *Fair* is held on the twenty-sixth of July, for the sale of goods, wearing apparel, grocery wares, toys, horses, cheese, &c. The fair is attended by great multitudes of people; and all kind of sports, including horse-racing, are carried on during its continuance. Its contiguity to Portsmouth renders it of much use to the small traders and shop-keepers of that town.

Near the bottom of Portsdown Hill is PURBROOK, late the seat of Charles Taylor, Esq. by whose laudable attention to agriculture, the surrounding lands have been greatly improved. The Mansion erected by that gentleman, is a handsome building, with detached wings for offices.

HAVANT

Is a neat and respectable town, consisting principally of one long street, crossed by a second at right angles. Here, in the morning of the twenty-fifth of October, 1734, a shock of an earthquake was felt, which continued for two or three minutes; and, after a short intermission, another shock, which lasted a similar space of time, was also experienced: no damage was done; but the tremulous motion that accompanied the shocks spread great alarm. The number of houses in this town, as returned in 1801, was 345; that of inhabitants, 1670: the latter are chiefly supported by fowling and fishing. The market was granted by King John, probably through the intercession of the Monks of Winchester, to whom the manor was granted by Ethelred. The *Church* is dedicated to St. Faith, and stands in the centre of the town: it is built in the form of a cross, with a tower rising from the intersection;

tion; the columns of the nave are of Saxon architecture; the arches are pointed. In the wall of the south transept are some remains of stone seats. The whole building displays specimens of the style of very different periods.

WARBLINGTON, about half a mile eastward from Havant, gave name to the ancient family of the De Warblingtons, who settled here about the time of Henry the Third, and continued to flourish till the time of Edward the Third; several of them having filled the offices of Sheriffs and Knights of the shire. The manor having escheated to the Crown, was given to Ralph de Monthermer, second husband to Joan of Acres, daughter of Edward the First and Queen Eleanor: from him it descended to the *Montacutes*, of whom John, Earl of Salisbury, was beheaded by the inhabitants of Cirencester, for conspiring to assassinate Henry the Fourth.* From this family it passed to the *Cottons*, of whom Sir Richard Cotton, Knt. was Comptroller of the Household to Henry the Eighth; and the last of whom, Thomas Cotton, Esq. bequeathed it to Thomas Panton, Esq. in 1736, since which it has become the property of Mrs. Ann Morris. The ruins called WARBLINGTON CASTLE, are supposed to have formed part of the ancient mansion of the Warblingtons, or of the Montacutes; but most probably of the latter, as the style of building does not agree with an earlier period: part of the materials are also of brick, faced with hewn stones. It appears to have originally been a square pile of about 200 feet, surrounding a quadrangular court; but the only part now standing, is the gateway and tower; and even this is fast mouldering to decay. The whole was surrounded by a fosse, about ten feet deep, and including about an acre of ground. Before the northern angle appears to have been a sort of entrenched camp, of five acres, now overgrown with wood, surrounded by a bank nearly eight feet high, and a ditch of a similar depth to that round the Castle. The *Church*, which stands at a little distance from the Castle, is traditionally said to have been founded by two maiden sisters, the last of the De Warblingtons; and the singularities of the

* See Vol. V. p. 603.

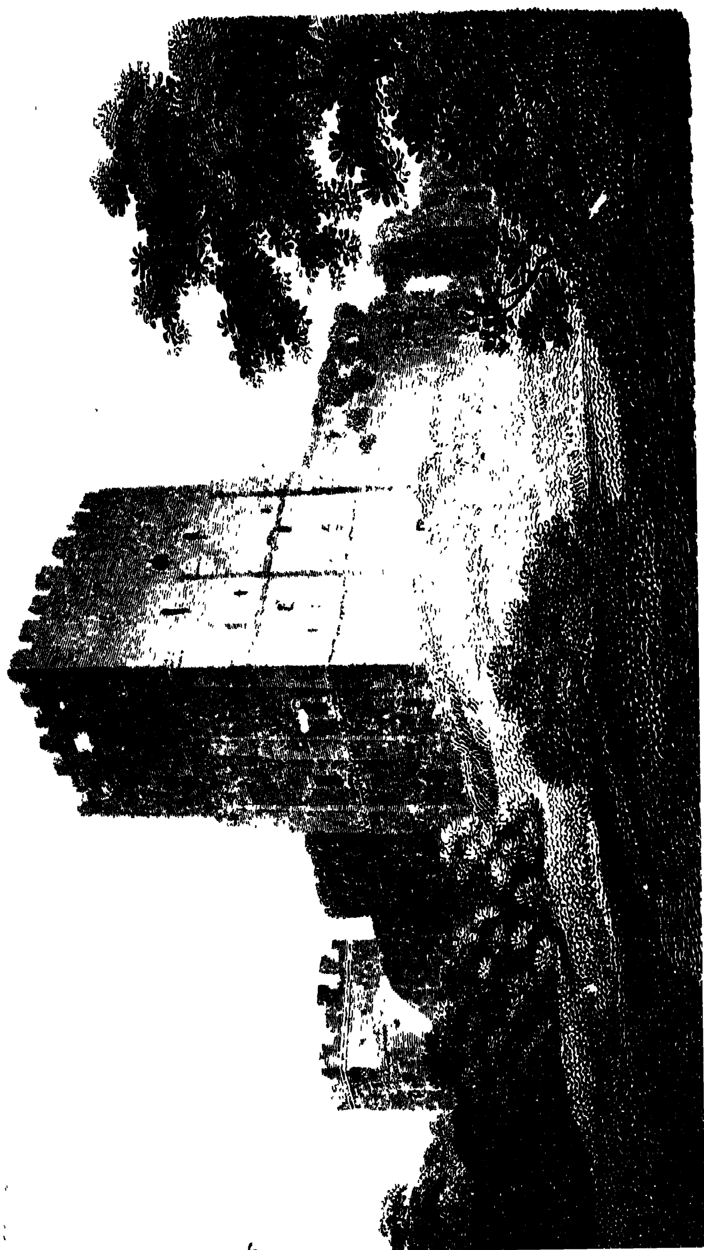
the interior architecture give countenance to this report. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a small Chapel, or Oratory, at the termination of each aisle. The aisles are separated from the nave by pointed arches, "erected on columns, with this distinction, that the columns on the north side are plain, firm, and solid, about eight feet in height, including the bases and capitals, and about two feet in diameter. The arches on the south side are supported by groups of columns of singular elegance; in the centre of each group is a small octagon pillar of free-stone, which is surrounded by four pillars of grey marble: the bases, which connect these groups, are neatly moulded, as are the capitals; and the latter have also additional ornaments."* Several stone coffins are deposited in the aisles; two of them, which, from their situation, effigies, and other circumstances, appeared to have belonged to the foundresses, were lately opened; in one was a perfect female skeleton; and in the other, the remains of a second skeleton, with the teeth perfectly sound, and beautiful, and the hair undecayed. All the coffins are similar in form, but of various lengths, from five feet and a half, to seven feet, and gradually diminishing from the head to the foot. "They are each made of one solid stone, hollowed out for containing the corpse, with receptacles for the head, neck, shoulders, arms, legs, and feet, particularly and curiously formed."† The chancel has been formerly paved with small square tiles, of various patterns, inlaid with a yellow composition; several of the designs are grotesque; some display the spread eagle, and others three fleurs des lis, supported by two birds.

EMSWORTH, in Warblington parish, and on the verge of Sussex, is an improving and busy place, pleasantly situated at the head of an inlet of the sea, and immediately opposite to Thorney Isle. Many small vessels are employed in the trade of this port; and the inhabitants derive additional sustenance from ship-building, rope-making, and other maritime occupations. In the winter of 1739, a *Swan* was killed here in the harbour, having a collar round its neck, impressed with the Royal arms of Denmark.

HAYLING

* Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. p. 146. † Ibid, p. 148.

HAYLING ISLE includes about 5000 acres of land, completely surrounded by the sea, and divided into the parishes of North Hayling and South Hayling. The land is mostly arable, and separated into small farms: the general rotation of crops, is first, wheat; second, barley, or oats; and third, barley and clover: every fourth year the ground lies fallow: the harvest is commonly reaped in July or August: the average rent of the land, which in North Hayling is chiefly common field, is about fifteen shillings an acre. In some parts the soil is too retentive of water to be cultivated, and nearly 1000 acres consists of sea-beach: about 1000 more acres are appropriated to pasture, but these are frequently overflowed by the sea. The principal branch of trade carried on in this Island, is the making of *Salt*, which has been an article of manufacture here time immemorial. One saltern is recorded in the Domesday Survey, which paid six shillings and eightpence; at present there are five. Two fisheries are also mentioned in the same record, as being then existing here. This manor was very early given to the Monastery at Winchester, but was by some means alienated, and afterwards granted by Henry the First to a PRIORY, which had been founded here previous to the Norman Conquest: this became a cell to the Benedictine Abbey of St. Gymeges in Normandy; but on the suppression of the Alien Priories, its possessions were given by Henry the Fifth to his new foundation of Carthusians at Sheen. On the Dissolution of the lesser Monasteries, the lands of Hayling Priory were granted to the College at Arundel, in exchange for other estates: on the surrender of that College, they were regranted to Henry, Earl of Arundel, and now belong to his descendant, the Duke of Norfolk. A small *Church* has been built in each parish: that of Hayling South is a neat edifice. The houses are principally constructed of brick, manufactured on the Island: their number, as returned in 1801, was 102; that of inhabitants, 578. On this Island is an establishment of about twenty persons belonging to the Excise, who are stationed here to prevent smuggling. Over the bar, or bed of sand, at the entrance of LANGSTONE HARBOUR, which lies between this Island and that of Portsea, is sufficient depth of water for vessels



of from thirty to seventy tons; and several of those sizes are employed in importing corn and coal. The oyster fishery was formerly considerable here, but has latterly declined through the numbers of persons engaged in it: the oysters are of very fine flavor. The *Convict* ships are stationed in this Harbour.

The narrow channel, or branch of the sea, which separates *Portsea Isle* from the main land, on the north-west side of Langstone Harbour, connects the latter with Portsmouth Harbour, a principal station of the Roman navy, and at the head of which is the strong fortress called PORCHESTER CASTLE. The precise origin of this structure is unknown; but this spot was certainly occupied by a fortress, that was successively possessed by the Britons, the Romans, the Saxons, and the Normans; and the works of [illegible], are yet discoverable in the walls and [illegible] the present Castle. By the Britons it was [illegible] appellation was altered by the Romans to that of [illegible] from the Roman name of the harbour: its modern name of [illegible] is evidently Saxon.

This Castle is situated on a [illegible] of land, jutting out a considerable way towards the middle of the harbour: it is a noble pile, of a quadrangular form, surrounding an area of between four and five acres; and still in sufficient preservation to be used as a place of confinement for prisoners of war; from [illegible] to [illegible] of whom have been secured here at one time. The walls are from eight to twelve feet thick, and about eighteen high; "having in many places a passage round them, covered with a parapet: it has eighteen towers, of various shapes and magnitudes, including those of the keep; and is defended on the north, west, and south sides, by a ditch, varying in breadth, and fifteen feet deep:" on the east are two ditches, which extend to the water, and have probably been filled by the influx of the tide. "The entrance on the west side is thirty feet deep, and fourteen wide, under a square tower: on the inside, over the gate, are two projecting figures, somewhat resembling Egyptian sphynxes. In the east wall, nearly opposite this gate, is another of like dimensions: there are likewise two sally-ports."

"The

"The keep encompasses a parallelogram of sixty-five by one hundred and fifteen feet. It has four towers; three of them standing on the outside wall: one of these, which is much larger than the rest, forms the north-west angle of the square: the fourth tower stands at the south-east corner of this building. Here are many rooms, several very large, and some arched with stone; among them is one which appears to have been a chapel: the entrance is through a gate on the south side, only eight feet wide. Several of these towers, as well as parts of the walls, are now in ruins."*

In a more minute description of this Castle, it will be found, that the remains of Roman workmanship are particularly observable in the outward walls, and in the round and semi-circular towers that defend it at unequal distances. The round towers are placed at the north-east, south-east, and south-west angles; the north-west angle is now taken up by the great square tower of the keep: some of these towers are twenty feet, and others nineteen in diameter; and, in general, they project about eighteen feet and a half from the wall. In several of them are still visible regular rows of Roman brick, dividing the rows of stone-work; and particularly in one, on the south side, in which are three rows very distinct: in the wall itself on this side they may also be traced, and indeed in many other parts; though, from the vast alterations made in successive ages, the regular courses have in many places been broken off, and in others wholly obliterated. A great circular arch of stone, about eight feet in width on the interior side of the east gate, or entrance, "has very much the appearance of having been originally Roman, and perhaps even a remaining part of the identical *Prætorian* portal."† Many Roman coins, and Roman medals, have been dug up here at different times. The extent of the outward walls, exclusive of the projecting parts of the round corner towers, is about 620 feet on the north and south sides; and 610 on the east and west. In

* Grose's Antiquities, Vol. II. p. 212.

† King's Munimenta Antiqua, Vol. II. p. 27. In this work is a very [par]ticular description of this Castle, illustrated by elevations and ground-

In the keep, which forms the north-west angle of the Castle, traces of the architecture of the Saxon and Norman periods, and even of yet later ages, to the time of Queen Elizabeth, are plainly to be seen. The great tower is lofty, and contains two vaults, or dungeons, at bottom; with the remains of three double apartments above them, in so many several stories: its walls are nearly eight feet thick; and its external dimensions on the north and south, fifty-seven feet; and on the east and west, fifty-eight feet. All the light it receives is from narrow loop-holes; excepting only in the third story, where, on two sides, in what appears to have been the state apartments, are small windows in the very plainest Saxon style: all the windows are on the sides, within the area. Adjacent to this tower on the east, and, indeed, immediately connected with it, are the remains of a building which appears to have been subsequently formed as an entrance; the original entrance having apparently been by a flight of steps on the same side.

As a protection to this tower, which, in its original construction, Mr. King supposes to be Saxon,* the works now connected with it, and which surround the inner court, were unquestionably erected in the Norman times, and, as supposed, between the period of the Conquest and the reign of Edward the First. Many alterations have, however, been made in this part, and particularly about the time of Edward the Third; and again in the reigns of the Henrys Sixth and Seventh. In these additional buildings were a great dining hall, and various apartments for domestic purposes, with apartments over them for lodging the garrison and servants; and also a grand stair-case, leading into the great tower: But the original destination of all the parts in this quarter of the Castle cannot now be ascertained, as they have frequently been altered during the last century. The most curious part, however, of this inner, or *Norman* court, as it may be called, is its fortified entrance, which opens from the outer area on the east. At the extremity on this side was a noble portal, with an obtuse pointed arch; and in this was a great strong gate, about eight feet

 wide:

* Munimenta Antiqua, Vol. II. p.

wide: further on, at about sixteen feet and a half from this, was a portcullis; and beyond that, a second great gate. Eighteen feet more inward still, was a second portcullis; and about eleven feet and a half beyond this, was a third great gate: thus far the whole passage of entrance was only eight feet four inches in width. Nearer the court, the side walls increase in thickness, from four feet nine inches, to nearly six feet; and here the entrance passage, which is still continued to the extent of forty-three feet more, becomes wider; its whole breadth being eighteen feet and a half; in this part was designed a place for barricadoes; whilst over the whole vaulted passage, the entire length of which is nearly ninety-four feet, were perforations, and machicolations, for pouring melted lead, boiling water, &c. on the heads of assailants: and to these machicolations, and to the battlements above, was a passage from the top of the surrounding walls of the inner court.* In this court was a draw-well, which still remains open.

The entrance to the outer area, or court, on the east, is by a great Norman tower, built on the Roman works, now much dilapidated; and formerly secured by a portcullis, and double folding doors, strongly barricadoed. The west, or opposite entrance, is also by a strong Norman tower about thirty-five feet wide, and thirty deep, having a passage through the centre, about eight feet in width: this also is in ruins.

The *Sacellum of the Prætorium* of the Romans is supposed, by Mr. King, to have been on the spot now occupied as the site of the parish *Church*, which is an edifice of great antiquity, dedicated to St. Mary, standing within the outer court, and nearly opposite to the east entrance. Though part of it has been rebuilt, and other parts repaired at various periods, it still displays many specimens of Saxon architecture, particularly in the west front. Its original form was that of a cross, with a low tower rising from the intersection; but the south transept has been taken down. All the doors and windows of the ancient part have semicircular arches; and those of the west end are decorated with double zig-zag ornaments:

* Munimenta Antiqua, Vol. II. p. 34—35.

ornaments: the arch of the west doorway has likewise some other ornamental mouldings; and all of them spring from two columns on each side, with sculptured capitals: the great west window is bricked up. Here it was that Henry the First founded the Priory of Black Canons, afterwards removed to Southwick. Within the Church is a monument to the memory of SIR THOMAS CORNWALLIS, Knt. Groom Porter to Queen Elizabeth, and James the First, who died in November, 1618: his bust represents him with short hair and beard, and a sash over his shoulder. The font is curious.

"In the rolls of Parliament, eighteenth of Edward the First, anno 1290, a complaint is exhibited against Henry Huse, Constable of the King's Castle of Porchester, reciting that John, Bishop of Winchester, being absent in foreign parts on the King's service, and all his possessions being in the King's protection, he the said Henry, with his armed men, foresters, and others unknown, hunted at their pleasure in the free chace of the said Bishop."

In the year 1299, twenty-seventh of Edward the First, the town and Castle of Porchester, with the forest, then valued at 16l. 13s. were settled on Queen Margaret as part of her dower: and in a register of the Abbey of Glastonbury, it appears that, in the twelfth of Edward the Third, John Hacket, Lieutenant to the Earl of Arundel, was Constable of this Castle; for the defence of which, and the guard of Portsmouth, the Abbot was bound to find three men at arms for his lands in Wiltshire, and one for those in Berks.* This Castle descended from the *Nortons* of Southwick, in the same manner as their other estates, to the late Robert Thistlethwayte, Esq. of whose family it has been rented by Government, since it became a place of confinement for prisoners. The prisoners are lodged in ranges of wooden buildings two stories high, erected on the north side of the great court, which is separated from the south side by a double picketing, so disposed as to leave a passage through the Castle from gate to gate. In another range of building, that extends towards the middle of the area

* Grose's Antiquities, Vol. II. p. 214.

from the south side of the east entrance, is the Cookery, &c. The south west quarter of the area is parted off, as an airing place; and a certain number of prisoners, in proportion to the whole, are daily admitted to walk here: within this division also is the Hospital for the sick. Round the north-west angle of the Castle, beyond the moat, is a parade and barracks for the soldiers who guard the prisoners.

It has been asserted by some authors, that the Roman General Vespasian, landed here, on his first arrival in Britain; but this has been contradicted by others on better testimony. That it must have been in his possession, is, however, extremely probable; as the conquest of the Isle of Wight could hardly have been otherwise effected. That several of the Saxon invaders landed here is more certain, and particularly Porta, with his sons, Bieda and Megla, by whose aid Cerdic was enabled to establish the kingdom of the West Saxons. At what period it was deserted of inhabitants is unknown; though presumed to be on the rise of Portsmouth, after the sea had in some degree retired from the upper parts of the harbour.

The village of Porchester, or PORCHESTER-STREET, is about a mile long, ranging on the road towards Fareham. Here,* between nine and ten years ago, the sea rose so high in a tremendous storm, that boats went up to the very extremity of the village; the banks having in many places been broken down by the strength of the waves. The publicans of Porchester and Southwick, enjoy the peculiar privilege, under charter from Queen Elizabeth, of being exempted from having any soldiers billited on them, or quartered in their houses.

CAM'S HALL, the seat of John Delmé, Esq. is an elegant modern building, standing in a pleasant park, on the east side of the lake or inlet of Portsmouth Harbour, that runs up to Fareham.

FAREHAM,

THOUGH only "a fischar village" in Leland's time, is now a respectable and populous town, chiefly inhabited by persons employed in maritime occupations; and, indeed, indebted for its

whole

whole importance to the naval establishment at Portsmouth. Sloops, and smaller vessels, are built here; and a considerable trade in coal and corn is carried on. The government of the town is vested in a Bailiff, two Constables, and two Ale-tasters. The number of houses, as returned under the late act, was 555: that of inhabitants, 3030. The neighbourhood is pleasant, and enlivened by various handsome seats.

TITCHFIELD,

About three miles westward from Fareham, is a small town, pleasantly situated near the Titchfield River, and inhabited by many respectable families. The *Church* is a spacious fabric, of the workmanship of different ages: the north side is reported to have been built by William of Wyckham; the south side is more ancient. In the part called the south chancel, is an interesting monument to the memory of Sir Thomas Wriothesley, afterwards first Earl of Southampton; Jane, his Lady; and Henry, their son, the second Earl; all of whom are represented by effigies on the tomb. Four fairs are held here annually. Under the act of 1801, the houses in this parish were enumerated at 554; and the inhabiat 2949.

At a short distance from this town, on the north, are the ruins of TITCHFIELD HOUSE, the ancient seat of the Wriothesleys. It was erected, by the first Earl of Southampton, on the site and with the materials of an Abbey, founded for Premonstratensian Canons, by Bishop Peter de Rupibus, in the year 1231. The annual revenues of this establishment, at the period of the Dissolution, amounted, according to Dugdale, to 249l. 16s. 1d. but according to Speed, to 280l. 19s. 4½d. Its possessions were then granted by Henry the Eighth to his favorite Secretary, Wriothesley, who built here, says Leland, "a righte statelie house embattled, and having a goodlie gate, and a conducte castelid in the middle of the court of it, in the very same place wher the late Monasterie stoode." This building is now in a very dilapidated state, the entrance gateway being the principal part left standing;

sixteen rooms having been pulled down within these few years for the sake of the materials. The old stables yet remain, and are worthy of notice. The Chapel is wholly in ruins. This estate is the property of John Delmè, Esq. of Cam's Hall, whose father purchased it of the third Duke of Beaufort, who had married a co-heiress of the first Earl of Gainsborough, and who had himself obtained it by his marriage with the daughter of Thomas, last Earl of Southampton. In Titchfield House, Charles the First was concealed after his escape from Hampton Court, in 1647, and previous to his again resigning himself to the power of Colonel Hammond, who conducted him to the Isle of Wight.

Near FORTON LAKE, a creek of Portsmouth Harbour, about a mile to the north from Gosport, is the NEW MILITARY HOSPITAL connected with the establishment of Portsmouth. The buildings consist of four pavilions, united by an arcade, with houses for offices, &c. In each pavilion are six large wards, and proper accommodations for attendants. On the north side of the Lake, and near the entrance, is the MAGAZINE, where, and in a smaller building dependent on this, on an Island above, all the *Powder* for the service of this port is stored. The Magazine is bomb-proof, and strongly arched: a small cut runs up from the harbour to this depository. Near it are the ruins of an ancient *Castle,* called *Borough* Castle, traditionally ascribed to King Stephen.

Near FORTON, a pleasant and populous hamlet, on the road to Gosport, is the FRENCH PRISON, an extensive range of buildings, with an Hospital, and proper offices: the whole is secured by a strong inclosure, strictly guarded.

GOSPORT,

LIKE Fareham, was, in Leland's time, only a village, inhabited by fishermen; but it is now an extensive market-town, with a very considerable trade, and particularly flourishing in times of war, from its contiguity to the naval arsenal at Portsmouth. Its importance, indeed, is now so great, that of late years it has been regularly fortified on the land side, by a line of bastions, redoubts,

2 counterscarps,

counterscarps, &c. that extends from Weovil to *Stoke*, or more properly, *Alverstoke Lake*. Within the works on the WEOVIL side, is the King's *Brewery* and *Cooperage*, with an immense range of store-houses for wine, malt, hops, &c. This place communicates with the sea by means of a large bason and canal, with extensive quays, where vessels of considerable burthen can take in their stores. Many small sloops belonging to Weovil are employed in the conveyance of wine, beer, and water, to the ships in the harbour. On the Weovil side are also the new *Barracks*, an extensive range of buildings, with every convenience for a great number of men.

The approach to Gosport by water is extremely fine, as the various forts, and large piles of building in its vicinity, are then seen to great advantage: and the town itself, considered as a sea-port, is well built, and handsome. The principal street extends westward from the harbour to the works, but is somewhat obstructed by the Market-house; others run parallel with this, and, like it, are crossed by various lesser streets, &c. Exclusive of these, different ranges of building extend along the shore, and near the fortifications, for the most part consisting of respectable houses.

Gosport is a chapelry to the neighbouring village of Alverstoke. The *Chapel* is a spacious building, standing in a large well-planted cemetery, to the south of the town. The interior is neat, and disposed into a middle and two side aisles: the organ was formerly the property of the Duke of Chandos, of Canons. Here is also a large Meeting-house for Dissenters, and a Chapel for Roman Catholics. Several *Charity-Schools* have been established here by subscription; together with some *Alms-Houses* for distressed widows; and a large, airy and commodious *Work-House* for the poor. The markets are held three days weekly, and are much frequented: fish and vegetables are sold here in great plenty; the latter are not only brought from a considerable distance inland, but also from the Isle of Wight. Here are several Breweries, and a very extensive *Iron Foundry*, where numerous articles are manufactured for Government by contract. The amusements of the more respectable classes are sought in a monthly assembly, with occasional

concerts: a neat *Theatre* has also been erected here. The population of the parish of Alverstoke, including the inhabitants of this town, was returned under the act of 1801, at 11,295; the number of houses, at 1906. The police is well regulated. The connection between Gosport and Portsmouth is preserved by the numerous ferry-boats that ply across the harbour, which in this part is about three quarters of a mile in width.

The ROYAL HOSPITAL at HASLER, for the reception of sick and wounded seamen, was built between the years 1746 and 1762, on the very earnest recommendation of the late Earl of Sandwich. It is situated within 400 yards of the extremity of the point of land which bounds the west side of the entrance to Portsmouth Harbour, and consists of an extensive front, and two wings, each consisting of two distinct ranges of building. These stand within the airing ground, which is almost a mile in circumference, and surrounded by a wall twelve feet high. Opposite the grand entrance is a neat military Pavilion, or Guard-House, where a constant guard of marines is kept to prevent desertion. The extent of the grand front, or centre building, is 189 yards: the pediment displays a sculpture, in Portland stone, of the Royal arms, with the figures of Navigation and Commerce, (the former pouring balm upon the wounds of a sailor,) and other appropriate ornaments: the length of each wing is about 184 yards. The wards are all uniform, sixty feet long, and twenty-four broad; each containing accommodations for twenty patients, with apartments for nurses, &c. Several other buildings are also within the walls for the use of the Governor, Lieutenants, and other officers and servants belonging to the establishment, which consists of more than 260 persons: the Chapel is a neat edifice, seventy-two feet in length, and thirty-six broad. Upwards of 2000 sick or wounded men can be admitted at the same time into this Hospital. The regular expenses of the establishment in salaries, &c. is upwards of 5000l. annually. The utility of this institution is unquestionable; and the great attention that is here paid to the wants of the brave men whom the chance of war has obliged to seek shelter within this asylum, merits the highest praise.

About three quarters of a mile south-west from Hasler Hospital, is FORT MONKTON, a modern and regular fortification, exceedingly strong, and defended by thirty-two pieces of heavy ordnance: to the westward, ranges a strong *Redoubt;* and this, together with the fort, effectually secures this part of the coast. On the shore to the eastward, a high and massive stone Wall has been erected, to preserve the land from the ravages of the sea.

Still further to the east, and near the extremity of the neck of land which bounds the entrance of the harbour on this side, is the BLOCK HOUSE, a very strong fort, defended by a tremendous battery.

THE ISLE OF PORTSEA,

WHICH includes the naval arsenal of Portsmouth within its limits, is wholly surrounded by the sea; its eastern boundary being formed by Portsmouth Harbour, and its western side by Langstone Harbour, while a narrow channel communicating between them, separates it from the main land on the north; the high sea washes its southern shores. Its circumference is about sixteen miles; its length, from north to south, being nearly five; and its breadth, in the widest part, between three and four. The cultivated land is chiefly arable; and some of the farms are of considerable size. Its population is very great; as, exclusive of the towns of Portsmouth, and Portsea, it includes several considerable villages and hamlets; as the Halfway Houses, Kingston Cross, Kingston, Hilsea, &c. On the land side it is defended by extensive fortifications, called the *Lines;* and next the sea, by various forts and batteries. On the east side are several *Salterns*, and a large tract of extra-parochial land ranging along the borders of Langstone Harbour. Part of the manor belongs to the College at Winchester, it having been granted to the *Newan Minster* by Queen Ethelfleda, wife of King Edgar. The communication with the main land is by two bridges, secured by a triple entrenchment; the one for the entrance, the other for the departure of passengers. Hence, a direct road extends to the important towns of

PORTSMOUTH

PORTSMOUTH AND PORTSEA.

THESE, though separated in the more minute regulations of local polity, can hardly be considered as forming more than one town; they are, indeed, both included within the limits of the borough of Portsmouth, both governed by the same magistrates, and both admitted to a participation in the same immunities. Portsmouth, as the more ancient town, has preserved its dignity and precedence in still being the seat of the civil and military establishments; it is also the residence of the Port Admiral: its streets are likewise more spacious; and, in general, its houses and buildings are superior. Portsea, however, is by far the largest and most populous town; and has the advantage in having both the Dock Yard and Gun-Wharf within its precincts.

The origin of PORTSMOUTH is affirmed, by Camden, to have been owing to the retiring of the sea from the upper parts of the Harbour, which rendering Porchester less convenient, the inhabitants removed to Portsea Isle, and built Portsmouth. The earliest historical notice concerning it, appears in the Saxon Chronicle, *sub anno* 501, which styles it *Portesmuthe*, as the author imagines, from Porta, the Saxon Chieftain, who landed here; but more probably from its situation at the mouth of the port, or harbour. Here Robert, Duke of Normandy, landed with a strong army, in 1101, with intent to dispute the possession of the throne with his brother, Henry the First; but the interference of the great Barons caused him to relinquish his design, and consent to terms of conciliation. About this period, or soon afterwards, Portsmouth seems to have attained to a considerable degree of importance, as the Saxon Chronicle informs us, that Henry the First passed the Whitsun week here in 1123; and in 1140, the Empress Maud landed at this port, with her brother Robert, the brave Earl of Glocester, and marched hence to Arundel.

In the year 1193, Richard the First granted the town its charter, in which, after declaring that he retains *Portesmue* in his own hands, with all that belongs to it, he grants to its Burgesses the privileges of

of an annual fair for fifteen days, and a weekly market; together with all the immunities, &c. enjoyed by the citizens of Winchester and Oxford. As a consequence of this charter, the inhabitants requested the presence of the itinerant Justices, and presented Henry the Third with three casks of wine, in order to prevail on him to command their attendance. In the beginning of the reign of Richard the Second, the town was burnt by the French, its growing trade having excited the jealousy of that nation; and several attempts have been since made by them to destroy it by the same means. Edward the Fourth, fully sensible of the importance of this port to the rising glory of the British navy, began to secure it by fortifications; and Richard the Third, impressed by similar ideas, carried on and extended the works which his predecessor had commenced. From this period it gradually increased in strength as well as consequence: till, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, it had become the principal naval arsenal in England; if not, indeed, the only port deserving that appellation. Leland, who visited it in this reign, describes it as follows:

"The land heere, on the east side of Portesmuth haven, rennith farther by a great way strait into the se, by south-est from the haven-mouth, than it doeth at the west poynte. There is, at this point of the haven, Portesmuth toun, and a great round tourre, almost doble in quantite and streukith to that that is on the west side of the haven right agayn it; and heere is a mighty chaine of yren, to draw from towre to towre. About a quarter of a mile above this tourre is a great dok for shippes, and yn this dok lyeth part of the rybbes of the *Henry, Grace of Dieu,* one of the biggest shippes that hath beene made *in hominum memoria.** Ther be above this dok crekes in this part of the haven.

"The towne of *Portesmuth* is murid from the est tour a forough length with a mudde waulle armid with tymbre, whereon be great peaces

* This ship is represented in the painting formerly at Windsor (see Vol. I. p. 219) of *The Embarkation of Henry the Eighth at Dover,* preparatory to his interview with Francis the First in *Le Champ de Drap d'Or.* This picture, with its companion, representing the *Interview* itself, has been lately presented by his Majesty to the Antiquarian Society.

peaces both of yren and brassen ordinauns; and this peace of the waulle having a diche without it, rennith so far flat south south-est, and is the place moste apte to defende the town ther open on the haven. Ther rennith a diche almost flat est for a space, and wythin it is a waulle of mudde like to the other, and so thens goith round aboute the toun to the circuite of a myle. Ther is a gate of tymbre at the north-est ende of the toun, and by it is cast up an hille of erths diched, wherein be gunnes to defend entre into the toun by land. Ther is much vacant ground within the toun waulle. Ther is one fair streate in the toune from west to north-est.

"I learnid in the toun, that the tourres in the haven-mouth were begon in King Edwarde the 4's tyme, and settle forwarde yn building by Richard the 3: Kyng Henry the vij. endyd them at the procuration of Fox, Bishop of Winchester. King Henry viij. at his first warres into Fraunce, erected in the south part of the towne 3 great bruing houses, with the implements, to serve his shippes at such tyme as they should go to the se in tyme of warre. One Carpenter, a riche man, made of late tyme, in the mydle of the high streate of the toun, a Toun-house. The toun is bare, and little occupied in time of peace."*

Henry the Eighth was the first Monarch under whom the Navy obtained a systematic establishment. In the preceding reigns, the naval force "was either hired from the merchant, foreign or native, or supplied by the Cinque and other ports of the kingdom; but the navy was under no sort of regulation: the bargain was made with the first, or the demand made from the last, according to their different assessments."† Henry the Seventh, indeed, appears to have made Portsmouth a Royal Dock; but no regular system was entered into before the time of his successor, to render the navy a national concern. Henry the Eighth first erected a Navy Office, and ranged his ships into different classes, keeping a regular inventory

* Itin. Vol. III. p. 81, 82.

† Pennant's Journey to the Isle of Wight, Vol. II. p. 137.

tory of their various stores.* In this reign, long after the famed Interview in *Le Champ de Drap d'Or*, Francis the First, having quarrelled with Henry, fitted out a vast fleet, under the command of D'Annebaut, Admiral of France; who, in July, 1544, came off the Isle of Wight, and stretched along the shore to St. Helen's, with intent to destroy Portsmouth. The English fleet, under Viscount Lisle, in the Great Harry, anchored off Spithead to receive them; and a distant cannonade continued for two days between the two fleets; but the French at length hauled their wind, and, after plundering some part of the Isle of Wight, retired to their own coasts. During the engagement, the Mary Rose, one of the largest of the English ships, and commanded by Sir George Carew, was overpowered by the weight of her own ordnance, and heeling greatly, the water rushed in at her port-holes, and sunk her: by this accident nearly 600 men, with Sir George, were drowned.

Even in the time of Edward the Sixth, Portsmouth was almost the only naval station, and the *only* Dock-Yard that could be considered as a national one. All the ships that Britain could then boast, and which, including galleys, pinnaces, and row-barges, were fifty-three, lay in this port; with the exception of two at Deptford strand, and one, the *Henry, Grace de Dieu*, at Woolwich.† The whole number of men belonging to these vessels, including soldiers, marines, and gunners, was 7780. Edward seems to have been deeply impressed with the necessity of making Portsmouth impervious to attack, as appears from his letter to his friend Barnaby Fitz-Patrick, written during his progress in 1552, and first published by Horace Walpole.

" From thes," writes the youthful Sovereign, " we went to Portismouth toune, and there viewed not only the toune itself, and the haven, but also divers bulwarkes; in viewing of which, we find the bulwarkes chargeable, massie, and ramparted, but il facioned, il flanked, and set in unmete places; the toune weak in comparison of

* See Archæologia, Vol. VI. p. 179, &c.

† Merchant's vessels are of course not included in this statement.

of that it ought to be, to house great (for w,^in the *wallis* are faire and large closis, and much vacant rome;) the haven notable greate, and standing by nature easie to be fortified. And for the more strength thereof, we have divised two strong castellis on either side of the haven, at the mouth thereof: for at the mouth of the haven is not past ten score over, but in the middal almost a mile over, and in length for a mile and a hauf, hable to bear the greatest ship in Christendome." Since this period, the fortifications have been greatly increased, and are now in a state of sufficient security to be almost denominated impregnable.

In the reign of Charles the First, Portsmouth was appointed as the rendezvous for the armament destined to relieve the Protestants in Rochelle, then besieged by Cardinal Richelieu. The Duke of Buckingham, the great favorite of the Sovereign, who had come from town purposely to hasten the preparations, was here assassinated, while surrounded by his principal officers, by the enthusiast Felton, a Lieutenant in one of the regiments ordered for embarkation, and who also had come from London solely to effect his dire purpose.* During the Civil Wars, Portsmouth was garrisoned for the Parliament.

Charles the Second was married in this town to Catherine, the Infanta of Portugal: this Monarch improved and enlarged the fortifications, particularly by surrounding *South-Sea Castle* with a kind of star-fort; but this was partly blown up by accident in the year 1759; soon after which, 6937l. was granted by the Parliament for improving the works. William the Third, also, made considerable additions; and many others have been completed since the year 1770, at a vast expense.

The most recent fortifications are those on the Portsea side; and here the line is so well secured, that the approaches of an enemy

* The house in which the Duke was stabbed, was No. 10, in the High Street, and is yet standing, but uninhabited, nearly opposite to the Meeting-House. The assassin, far from attempting to escape, justified the deed, considering the death of Buckingham as essential to the glory of his country: he was executed at Tyburn, and his body was afterwards hanged in chains at Portsmouth.

enemy could only be made in front; and even there, but on few points. The surrounding country is also so low, as to be completely commanded by the elevation of the works, which are faced with stone, as far as the angles of the parapet. The ditches are wide and deep; and the whole line is further strengthened by strong and capacious outworks. At the head of the creek which separates Portsea from Portsmouth, is an extensive ravelin, which connects these works with those of the latter town: the communication between the towns is preserved by a long bridge, which leads to St. Thomas's Gate.

The fortifications on the Portsmouth side, extending along the beech, from the town to South-Sea Castle, form a noble semicircular terrace, which is planted with elms, and being kept in excellent order, makes a delightful promenade, upwards of a mile in length. From the Platform, which is more immediately the resort of company, is an extremely fine sea-view, including the anchorage at Spithead, and the Isle of Wight in the distance: the more contiguous scenes are scarcely less beautiful.

The great and progressive increase in the naval establishments and trade of Portsmouth, and the vast augmentation of buildings dependant thereon, at length rendered the town by far too small for its population; and early in the last century, but not till then, an open common, on the north side, was chosen as the most convenient spot for additional houses. As these became inhabited, new ones were erected, and were again rapidly increased by others, till the new buildings assumed the appearance of a spacious suburb, and were denominated for many years, by the general name of the *Common*, or *Portsmouth Common*. Still increasing with an almost unparalleled rapidity, the offspring outgrew its parent town, which lying within the old fortifications, presented no vacant space for additional buildings. Assuming consequence with extent, its original name of the Common was discarded, and in an Act of the Legislature, passed in the year 1792, for paving, and otherwise improving the place, it displays its rising honors under the appellation of "*The Town of* PORTSEA." Even in the suburbs of this new town, and beyond the fortifications that environ it, several ranges of building have been erected of late years. The

The DOCK-YARD, which must be considered as the germ of all the modern additions, and the *Gun-Wharf*, are both on the Portsea side; yet though close to the town, they are rigidly excluded from all connection with it, but what depends on the requisite accommodations of the workmen employed. The Dock-Yard is very extensive, and contains within its precincts, every article of which the navy can be in want. The number of its buildings are considerable; they consist of immense store-houses, handsome residences for the principal officers, a spacious and elegant mansion for the Commissioner, an Academy for naval instruction, a neat Chapel, extensive workshops, mast-houses, &c.

The entrance from the town is by a lofty Gateway, with a smaller one on the right; these are carefully attended, so that no strangers can be admitted without proper authority: the Porter's residence is a large building to the left. Passing the Mast-Houses, and a handsome modern-built Guard-house, the *Pay-Office* attracts attention: this has every convenience for its purpose; and beneath is a spacious piazza, to shelter those who cannot be immediately admitted to the upper offices in bad weather. Proceeding onwards, the *Royal Naval Academy* arrests the sight: it consists of a centre and two wings, furnished with every requisite accommodation for the important office of instruction it is designed to effect. In one of the wings is a very fine *Model* of the Victory, a first rate of 110 guns, that was lost near the Race of Alderney in 1774, with upwards of 1000 men, while under the command of Admiral Balchen: both the ship itself, and the model, were built in this yard; the latter is uncommonly curious: on this building is a very excellent Observatory.

Somewhat further is the *Commissioner's House*, a spacious building, consisting of a centre, with an elegant portico, and two wings, properly fitted up, both for the purposes of business and habitation. Here his present Majesty resided during his visit to Portsmouth, after Lord Howe's victory over the Republican fleet of France, on the first of June, 1794. This mansion has been built since the year 1773: behind it is a large and well-disposed garden. A long range of *Store-Houses* succeeds; and to the right of these a neat modern

modern *Chapel*, in the cupola of which is hung the bell that belonged to the unfortunate Royal George, lost in the bosom of security, while careening at Spithead. Not far distant is the *New Guard-House*, having a handsome portico, fronting the entrance to Cumberland-Street.

Passing the *Anchor Wharf*, where a very extensive range of anchors of every dimension are kept ready for immediate service, the *Rope-House* attracts notice. This is a spacious pile, three stories high, and of vast length; its admeasurement, in this respect, being 1094 feet; its breadth is fifty-four feet. Here the cables are formed, a work of immense labor; but of late years much facilitated by the use of machines. The cables are twisted in the lower story; in the upper ones the various processes of spinning the hemp, and preparing the threads, are carried on. The operations in this division of the yard are particularly ingenious, and highly interesting.

Leaving the stables and other buildings on the right, and passing various store-houses, and piles of timber for the service of the yard, the visitor enters a kind of square, the east side of which is formed by a row of handsome houses, inhabited by the principal officers, and the north and south by a variety of offices, store-houses, &c. the west side is open. In the centre of this square, on a marble pedestal, is a gilt statue of WILLIAM THE THIRD, in a Roman habit; this was the gift of Colonel Richard Norton, of Southwick Park. The area of the square is used as a repository for timber, immense quantities of which are here piled up.

Proceeding to the vast building called the *Anchor Forge*, the sight and hearing are both confounded by the terrific din, and Cyclopean scenes that spread through this abode of horrid imagery. The large and dusky figures of the workmen, sometimes glaring with the reflection of the immense fires, at others obscured, or dimly seen through the dismal volumes of smoke that arise " on all sides round;" the sullen sound of the enormous sledges, the lighter clanking of the hammers, and the sparkling of the metal as it is crushed into form by the descending stroke, all combine most powerfully to impress the mind with sensations of fearful admiration. The labor of the Cyclops in the caverns of Etna, cannot be

 more

more faithfully represented. Many of the anchors that are here wrought, weigh from forty to ninety tons each.

The next impressive objects which demand the attention of the visitor, are the ships of war upon the stocks; the height, the immense size, the solidity and compactness of the frame-work, and the bold curvatures formed by the spreading sides of these 'bulwarks of the ocean,' cannot fail to excite the most lively interest in the breast of every one who knows that the safety of England is wholly owing to its *Wooden Walls*.

The *Jetty-Heads*, with the *Basons* and *Docks*, are next in order, and, with the ships in the harbour, present a very grand and interesting spectacle; to which the extraordinary capaciousness of the new range of Docks, &c. greatly contribute. These immense works are rendered perfectly convenient for their respective purposes, and while the ships continue under repair, are kept completely dry; though alongside the jetties in their immediate vicinity, the depth of water is so great, that the largest first-rates lie close to the shore. The *Rigging-Houses* deserve particular attention; as well as many other parts of this celebrated arsenal.* Great improvements have been made in all the departments of the yard within the last thirty years; and in addition to the other machines employed to facilitate labor, two *Steam Engines* have been set up, one of them on a very large and improved scale.

"Where such immense structures," observes a late writer, speaking of this yard, "as first-rate ships of war, are constructed, and refitted in whole fleets, with a degree of expedition truly astonishing, machines, workshops, and magazines, must necessarily be of relative size and consequence."† Every thing, indeed, is here upon a mighty scale; and, abstractedly considered, the efforts of human

* As the general arrangement and business of the Dock-Yards are similar, we shall refer the reader to the description of Plymouth in our Fourth Volume, for more enlarged particulars of their general economy. To a Briton, perhaps, the subject is one of the most interesting that can employ the mental powers.

† Monthly Magazine, Oct. 1801. Vol. XII.

man industry seem too weak and impotent to achieve the important works that are here displayed. To what, however, is the labor of man, practically exerted, absolutely incompetent? Even the inflexible and knarled oak* bends to the efforts of his power; and the proud fabric that stems the ocean's rush, and braves the horrors of the midnight storm, is indebted for its creation and security, to his activity and persevering exertions.

The number of workmen employed in the Portsmouth Yard is very great, but varies considerably, according to the business to be executed, and to the more or less dispatch that may be necessary. Even in peaceable times, upwards of 2000 men are commonly engaged in its different departments; but in times of war, this number is frequently doubled, and even 5000 persons have been employed here together. The officers, who have regular appointments, consist of a Commissioner, whose salary is 800l. per annum, with three Clerks; a Clerk of the Cheque, a Store-keeper, a Master Shipwright, a Surveyor's Clerk, two Master's Attendants, an Extra Master Attendant, three Assistant Master's Shipwright, a Clerk of the Rope Yard, a Master Rope-Maker, a Boatswain, a Purveyor, a Master Boat-Builder, Chaplain, Surgeon, &c. Here, as at Plymouth, the workmen have had of late years, an extra allowance of six-pence daily in lieu of chips, which were formerly considered as perquisites.

Though every precaution that can be devised, is taken to guard against the destructive element of fire, three great conflagrations have occurred here since the year 1760: the first of these appears to have been accidental; but the second was, most probably, the effect of design, as the last undoubtedly was. The first commenced in the night of the third of July, and raged for a long time with amazing fury. The night had been extremely tempestuous; the thunder was awfully loud, and the flashes of lightning were uncommonly vivid: the weather had also been uncommonly sultry. Many hundred tons of tar, oil, and other combustibles, were consumed, besides 1050 tons of hemp, 500 tons of cordage, and about

 700

* Shakespeare.

700 sails. The fire was attributed to the lightning; and a watchman deposed, that a meteor, or fire-ball, passed near him about ten minutes before the fire broke out: it was remarked also, that the windows of the hemp store-house had that night been left open in order to air it. The second fire occurred on the morning of the twenty-seventh of July, 1770; and, from various circumstances, occasioned great suspicions of its having been purposely ignited. The effects were more tremendous than had accompanied the former: the store-house for pitch and tar was rapidly destroyed; and immediately afterwards, the flames burst out in four different parts at once, and that with such extreme vehemence, that the destruction of the whole Yard was fully expected. The wind, however, shifted to a favorable quarter; and, by the active exertions of the workmen, assisted by a body of seamen and marines, and the voluntary aid of numerous individuals, the progress of the fire was arrested, and at length finally overcome. The third and last fire was on the seventh of December, 1776: in this instance the incendiary was discovered, and suffered the punishment of death. His real name was John Aitkin; but the appellation by which he is most known, is that of *Jack, the Painter.* He is supposed to have acted under foreign influence; and his attempts had previously excited considerable alarm at Plymouth and Bristol. His plans were deeply laid; and to effect his designs, he had invented a very ingenious machine. With this he contrived to conceal himself in the Dock-Yard, and lodging his machine among the cordage, he set fire to it: in the morning he passed the gates without being seized, and on the same day the fire broke out, though earlier by some hours than he had purposed. Assistance being immediately given, and the wind blowing at the same time towards the water. the flames were prevented spreading in any considerable degree; though the Rope House, and some adjoining store-houses, were consumed. The incendiary soon quitted Portsmouth, but was apprehended about two months afterwards; and the whole progress of his villainy being traced, he was condemned at Winchester, on incontestible evidence, and was executed near the Dock Gates, on the seventh of March, 1777. Previous to his suffering the

the penalty of the law, he made all the reparation in his power, by pointing out some effectual measures for securing the Dock-Yards from similar attempts.

The GUN WHARF includes several ranges of building for the reception of the naval and military artillery, stores, &c. Some of the store-houses are very large, particularly two, which, with their dependencies, are adapted to contain all kinds of necessaries for the sudden equipment both of a fleet and army. On the wharf is the grand depot for guns, carronades, and mortars, with shot and shells of almost every dimension and weight: these are ranged in immense piles of a pyramidical form. Here also, in times of peace, the guns from all the ships that are laid up in ordinary* at this port, are lodged; each ship's guns being kept in a separate tier, while the carriages are deposited away in the same regular manner in proper store-houses, so that all may be re-delivered at a moment's notice. The *Small Armoury* is a spacious building, of late erection, sufficiently large to contain arms for 25,000 men; the arms are arranged under various figures in exact order. the rooms below are appropriated to the artificers who are employed in keeping the arms in perfect readiness for service. The houses inhabited by the Storekeeper, and other officers, who have the care of the ordnance, are handsome structures.

The principal buildings dependent on this grand naval emporium, on the Portsmouth side, are the Victualling Office, the Government House, the houses of the Lieutenant Governor, and Port Admiral; and the Marine and Military Barracks. The *Victualling Office* comprehends several extensive ranges of building, including a noble house for the Agent Victualler, and a large Storehouse, running the entire length of St. Thomas's Street, and containing the provisions and liquors for the supply of the navy · in the other buildings the beef and pork are prepared and salted, the biscuits baked, &c. The grain for the latter purpose is ground at the *King's Mill*, a building on the Portsea side, erected on piles, at an expense of nearly 7000l. · The mill is worked by a stream

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* For an explanation of this term see Vol. IV. p 178, (note.)

of salt-water, admitted from the harbour by means of a great sluice on the creek which separates the towns. The sluice, or mill-dam, is closed at high water; and, on the ebbing of the tide, the water is again worked back into the harbour.

The *Government House* is situated at the upper end of the grand Parade: this is reputed to have originally formed part of a "faire HOSPITALE," or *Domus Dei*, founded for twelve poor men, by the Bishop Peter de Rupibus, and the annual revenues of which were, at the Dissolution, valued at 33l. 19s. 5¼d. It displays, however, but little vestige of its monastic origin, the alterations having been great and frequent. Since it became appropriated to the Right Hon. Sir W. A. Pitt, K. B. the present Governor of Portsmouth, many improvements have been made, and it now forms a very eligible residence. Near it is the ancient *Chapel* belonging to the Hospital; this has been repaired of late years, and assigned to the use of the officers and soldiers of the garrison. The residences of the Lieutenant Governor, and of the Port Admiral, are handsome and convenient buildings; particularly the latter, which is situated in the High Street, and has been fitted up in a very elegant manner at the expense of Government.

Portsmouth, as already mentioned, received its first charter from Richard Cœur de Lion, since which various charters have been granted by succeeding Kings: that under which the town is now governed, was bestowed by Charles the First. The Corporation consists of a Mayor, Recorder, twelve Aldermen an unlimited number of Burgesses, and some inferior officers. The first return to Parliament was made in the twenty-third of Edward the First. The right of election, as determined by the House of Commons in the reign of William the Third, is vested in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses: the number of voters is about 110.* The public business is mostly transacted at the *Town-Hall*, a large building, injudiciously placed near the middle of the High Street, with an open space for the markets beneath: this edifice was repaired

* Some curious particulars relating to the parliamentary history of this town, may be seen in the Hist. of Boroughs, Vol. II.

paired and enlarged in the year 1796. In the High Street is also the *White House*, or *Town Prison*, having different apartments for separating the prisoners into classes.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Thomas á Becket, is a spacious building, erected at different periods of time: the tower, which is the most modern part, is 120 feet, forming a good mark for seamen. Behind the altar is a large and elaborate monument, or rather cenotaph, in memory of the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM, having in the centre a marble urn, in which the heart of that ill-fated nobleman is said to be deposited: the Duke's body was buried in Westminster Abbey. The parish *Church* of Portsea is situated at Kingston, a hamlet about two miles distant: this inconvenient circumstance, and the augmented population of the town, have occasioned two neat Chapels to be built here: these are respectively dedicated to St. George and St. John. The internal arrangement of *St. John's Chapel* is particularly elegant; the altar is placed in a semicircular recess, separated from the body of the Chapel by a screen of Corinthian columns, fluted; the ceiling is richly decorated with stucco-work. This Chapel was consecrated in the year 1789. Besides these places of worship, there are ten or twelve Meeting-Houses within these towns and the immediate environs, principally for Dissenters.

Among the charitable institutions is a *Free Grammar School*, founded in the last century, by Dr. Smith, a Physician of this town, and by whom it was placed under the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford. This has already become a sinecure; but several other *Schools* of more effective use have been established here; one of them is under the patronage of a Friendly Society, and is kept in the *Society Hall*: the honorary members of this society include many gentlemen of the first respectability in Hampshire. Here is also an *Alms-House* for eight poor widows, of late endowment. The poor of both parishes are chiefly employed in picking oakum; but the general system under which they are managed is very distinct; and the rates are in consequence much higher at Portsmouth than at Portsea, where the regulations are most judicious. The *Poor-House* of Portsmouth is an old build-

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ing, standing in a very dissolute part of the town, and much confined; that of Portsea occupies a more open spot about a mile distant, having a large area and garden within its walls: at Portsea, also, the parish officers may be considered as holding their appointments for life, as they are always re-chosen annually. They are generally shipwrights belonging to the Dock, who are deserving of preferment, and nominated on vacancies, by the principal officers of the yard.

Many improvements have been made in both towns within the last thirty or forty years. The paving of Portsmouth was completed in 1775, at an expense of nearly 9000l. levied under an act passed in 1768: the paving of Portsea commenced in 1792, but is not entirely completed. The ancient regulations of watch and ward are yet enforced at Portsea; and a certain number of the inhabitants parade nightly, or find substitutes for that purpose: in some parts, however, the expense of watching and lighting is defrayed by subscription. In Portsmouth, the charges of lighting and watching are defrayed by a rate raised under a particular act.

The commercial character of these towns has been greatly improved within the last century; and even in time of peace, the trade is now very considerable. The annual fair, or *Free Mart*, as it is called, originally granted by Richard the First, is still held in the High Street, and still lasts during its original term of fifteen days, commencing on the tenth of July: no person can be arrested within the precincts of Portsmouth during its continuance. The markets are held thrice weekly, and are well supplied with all kinds of provision. In Broad Street, which forms part of the western suburb, or Portsmouth Point, is the *Custom-House*, a large and convenient structure, with an extensive establishment, including several fast-sailing cutters for the prevention of smuggling. "This part of the town is admirably situated for commerce, the inhabitants on the north side, having generally an immediate communication with the water. The place where the merchant ships lie, is a large bay between the gun-wharf and the point, having the advantage of an excellent quay, and all its appropriate appendages:

dages: this communicates with Portsmouth by a large gate, denominated the Quay Gate, leading directly to the Victualling Office; and with Portsea, by a road which passes the King's mills and gun wharf." At the point, and close to the mouth of the harbour, is a spacious and convenient *Bathing-House.*

At high water, Portsmouth-Point is completely insulated; and the communication with the town is then by a draw-bridge. Several extensive *Breweries* are established at Portsmouth; and for commercial convenience, a *Bank* has been erected on the Parade.

The amusements of the upper classes are sought in subscription assemblies, held at the Crown inn, occasional concerts, &c. These, however, have less influence than the pleasures of the *Theatre*, which is always crowded, and generally suffered to remain open somewhat longer than the 'law allows.' Among the diversity of ranks that people a maritime town, and particularly one so extensive as this, some profligacy will always obtain admittance; yet, even in this respect, Portsmouth has certainly been the subject of undeserved reproach. The unfortunate women, whose general habits have rendered them amenable to the police, are mostly confined to particular districts, with which, by some late judicious regulations, the soldiery are debarred intercourse, at least openly. The literary character of Portsmouth is improving, and two newspapers are published here.

The general mode by which the inhabitants are supplied with water, is inconvenient: from the want of reservoirs, or aqueducts, it is carried about in carts, and sold for daily use. A more enlarged degree of public spirit would, perhaps, accomplish the desirable undertaking of conveying it to the houses through pipes, as in the Metropolis: the springs in the vicinity could certainly be formed into a head sufficient for the regular supply.

The population and number of houses in this district, are thus stated in the returns made under the act of 1801. Portsmouth: houses, 1134; inhabitants, 7839. Portsea: houses, 2554; inhabitants, 14,943. Liberty of Portsea, in that part within the Borough: houses, 1651; inhabitants, 9384. Guildable part, or vicinity of Portsea, beyond the Borough limits: houses, 231; inhabitants,

habitants, 1060. The whole number of houses in the district is, therefore, 5570; and that of inhabitants, 33,226. Of this number it is deserving of remark, that the females constitute the majority by 3538. This, however, is a disproportion more apparent than real, as the males who reside here belonging to the army, the navy, and the militia, are not included in the above statements. The number of inns and public houses, was returned at 231. The chief part of those who inhabit Portsea and its vicinity, are the artificers and laborers belonging to the Dock-Yard, and persons employed in retail trades, &c.

Among the natives of Portsmouth whose names deserve the approbation of posterity, is JONAS HANWAY, a celebrated philanthropist, who was born on the twelfth of August, 1712. He was bred a merchant, and having formed a connection with a commercial house at Petersburgh, it occasioned him to travel into Persia, of which journey he published an account. He afterwards settled in London, and, in the intervals of business, devoted his whole time to the projecting, and establishment, of societies for benevolent purposes. The *Marine Society*, and the *Magdalen Hospital*, were among the number: and, for his exertions in behalf of the former institution, he was appointed a Commissioner of the Navy. He died in the year 1786.

The capaciousness and safety of PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR are decidedly superior to most others in the kingdom. Secure from every storm, the greatest first-rates may ride here, at the lowest ebbs, without touching ground; and its extent is almost sufficient for the whole Navy of England, great and multitudinous as it is. Even when the sea at Spithead is so agitated by the fury of the winds, that the largest ships are sometimes driven from their anchors, the ships within the harbour remain in perfect security. Every where the bottom affords good anchorage, and is so completely free from bars or impediments, that even a first-rate can make sail at any time of the tide, and quit the harbour in the deep water beneath South-Sea Castle. As the ebb tide is much stronger than the flood, all accumulation of sand is prevented, and the entrance of the port is perfectly free and open. Besides these ad-

 vantages,

vantages, Portsmouth Harbour possesses almost complete security from assault by sea, by reason of the various forts or batteries that defend the approach, and are almost level with the water's edge. Hardly any wind that can blow, could have power to endanger the shipping moored on its wide bosom, so effectually is it sheltered by the position of the surrounding lands.

During the last war, *L'Impetueux*, of seventy-four guns, and the *Boyne*, of ninety-eight, were destroyed by fire in this harbour: the former was one of the prizes taken by Lord Howe, on the first of June, and was set on fire by the accidental ignition of some gunpowder: she burnt to the water's edge; but no further damage was done. The destruction of the *Boyne* was a more tremendous sight: this happened on May-day, 1795. The fire broke out aft, with a fresh breeze at south-west, which occasioned the flames to spread through the whole ship with extreme rapidity. Most of the crew were saved by the numerous boats that went to assist them; but the heat at length became so great, and the danger so imminent, that no further assistance could be given; and, on the turn of the tide, she drifted slowly to the eastward, with the fire issuing through every port-hole. Her lower-deck guns were shotted; and as these went off, much damage was done, and some lives lost. Exactly at five o'clock, six or seven hours after the fire commenced, and when the blazing wreck had drifted nearly to South-Sea Castle, the after-magazine blew up, with an explosion that was sensibly felt over all Portsmouth. The effect was awfully grand; shot and pieces of timber were thrown to a vast distance; and a column of smoke ascended from the inflamed powder, that assumed the most sublime appearance, before it was dispersed by the winds. Several boats were blown to atoms by the explosion, and about twenty of their hands perished. The ships that were leeward when she began to drift, got under weigh, and ran down to St. Helen's to escape the danger.

In the famous reach of SPITHEAD, and immediately off the entrance of Portsmouth Harbour, at about the distance of a mile, the ill-fated Royal George lies buried in the ocean. This ship, carrying 100 guns, and considered as one of the finest in the navy,

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was sunk by accident in August, 1782. Some repairs being wanting on her keel, to save the delay of going into harbour, she was hove on one side, by the removal of her guns, and while in that situation, a sudden squall from the north-west threw her broad-side on the water, and the lower deck ports not having been lashed down, she filled, and sunk in about three minutes. Her brave Admiral, Kempenfelt, and upwards of 400 of her crew, besides 200 women, perished in her; though every assistance was immediately given by the boats of the fleet, which had just returned from a successful cruize. Her top-masts are yet visible above water. The body of her gallant commander was never found; but a cenotaph in Alverstoke Church records his talents, and his virtues.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT, though included within the jurisdiction of this County, is separated from it by a channel, varying in breadth from two to seven miles, and in former ages distinguished by the appellation of the *Solent Sea*. Many have conjectured that this Isle was originally connected with the main land, but that the violence of the sea had gradually disjoined it from the neighbouring shore. Of this opinion is the learned Whitaker, who remarks, from older writers, that its name is evidently derived from the British *Guith*, or *Guict*, signifying the divorced, or separated: hence arose the appellation of VECTIS, or the separated region, for the Isle of Wight."* This opinion is not without its opponents; but the supporters of the affirmative appear to have the advantage both in talents and in number. Diodorus Siculus, who speaks of an Island by the name of *Ictis*, to which he affirms the Britons carried their tin over in carts at the recess of the tide, in order to export it to the opposite coasts of Gaul, is thought by many to allude to the Isle of Wight; and if this could be established, it would at once decide the controversy.

The

* Hist. of Manchester, Vol. I. p. 410.

The original *Tin* Staple was certainly at the *Cassiterides*, or Scilly Isles; but prior to the time of this historian, it had been removed to the Roman *Vectis*, or Isle of Wight. "The Greeks of Marseilles," observes Mr. Whitaker, who quotes Strabo and Diodorus as authorities, "first followed the tract of the Phœnician voyagers; and some time before the days of Polybius, and about 200 years before the age of Christ, began to share with them in the trade of tin. The Carthaginian commerce declined; the Massylian commerce increased: and in the reign of Augustus, the whole of the British traffic had been gradually directed into this channel. At that period the commerce of the Island was very considerable: two roads were laid across the country, and reached from Sandwich to Caernarvon on one side, and extended from Dorsetshire into Suffolk on the other: and the commerce of the coasts must have been carried along them into the interior regions of the Island. The great staple of tin was no longer settled in a distant corner: it was removed from Scilly, and was fixed in the Isle of Wight, or central part of the coast, lying equally betwixt the two roads, and better adapted to the new arrangement of the trade. Thither the tin was carried by the Belgæ; thither the foreign merchants resorted with their wares; and the trade was no longer carried on by vessels that coasted tediously along the winding shores of Spain and of Gaul: it was now transported over the neighbouring channel, and unshipped on the opposite coast. The Isle of Wight was now actually a part of the greater Island, disjoined from it only by the tide, and united to it always at the ebb: and during the recess of the waters, the Britons constantly passed over the low isthmus of land, and carried their loaded carts of tin directly across it."*

The circumstance of the *Tin* Staple being continued in the neighbouring port of Southampton, even so late as the fifteenth century, is thought to corroborate its having been previously fixed at the Isle of Wight. Sir Robert Cotton, in a very curious tract relative to the estates of the Kings of England, observes, that

Henry

* Hist. of Manchester, Vol. I. p. 387.

Henry the Sixth, in the thirty-first of his reign, "arrested all the tin in Southampton, and sold it to his own present use." It appears also from the Rolls of Parliament of the twenty-ninth of the same Monarch, that the Merchants of Genoa, among other privileges, were empowered to receive all the customs and subsidies "arising and growing in the said port," upon all wools, woolfells, hides, *tin*, and other merchandise, till the sum of 8000l. should be paid to them for a certain quantity of allom foyle, which the King had taken for his own use.* The removal of the tin staple from the Isle of Wight to Southampton, is supposed to have taken place after the connecting isthmus had been broken through by the sea.

Among the supporters of the opinion, that this Isle was the *Ictis* of Diodorus, was the late Rev. W. Gilpin, who writes thus: "As we entered Lymington River, we found a fresh proof of the probability of the ancient union between Vectis and the main. The tide was gone, and had left vast stretches of ooze along the deserted shores. Here we saw lying on the right, a huge stump of a tree, which our boatmen informed us had been dragged out of the water. He assured us also, that the roots of oaks, and other trees, were often found on these banks of mud; which seems still to strengthen the opinion, that all this part of the coast now covered with the tide, had once been forest-land."† It has also been observed by a gentleman of the Isle of Wight, whose testimony is quoted by Sir Richard Worsley, that "a hard gravelly beach extends a great way across from the Isle, towards the coast of Hampshire, about midway from the extremity of the channel, and corresponding with the place called *Leap*, probably from the narrowness of the pass." Here then is supposed to be the isthmus along which the tin was originally carried to the Isle of Wight.

Borlase,

* Sir Richard Worsley, Bart. in his History of the Isle of Wight, mentions the House where the Stannaries were held at Southampton; and observes, that there is a large cellar, now the quay, which still retains the name of the Tin Cellar, and was most probably the place where the tin was deposited.

† Observations on the Western Parts of England, &c. p. 345.

Borlase, who, in his Natural History of Cornwall, has treated on this subject, conjectures that the *Ictis* of Diodorus must have been near the coast of Cornwall: and Polwhele, the historian of Devon, who adopts a similar mode of reasoning, and pursues it to a considerable extent, concludes, that the real *Ictis* was the place now called the Isle of St. Nicholas, nearly opposite the mouth of the Tamar.

Suetonius, who is the first of the Roman authors that notices the Isle of Wight, records that it was conquered by Vespasian about the year 43: no remains of Roman occupation, however, either of camps, or coins, appear to have been ever met with here. Cerdic, the Saxon Chieftain, and founder of the kingdom of Wessex, made the second conquest of the Isle; and having slain most of its inhabitants, re-placed them by Jutes and Saxons, over whom he placed his nephews, Stuff and Withgar. In the year 661, it was again subdued by Wulphure, King of Mercia, who bestowed it upon Adelwach, King of Sussex, whom he had previously vanquished, and made prisoner. Ceadwalla, a descendant from Cerdic, again seized it about fifteen years afterwards, as his rightful inheritance; and Bede relates, that he had determined to root out the inhabitants as idolaters; but that Bishop Wilfrid had the address to prevail on him to spare all who would submit to receive baptism. The two youthful brothers of the deposed Sovereign, were, however, put to death, even after they had consented to embrace Christianity.*

The next remarkable occurrence recorded by historians, is the seizure of the Isle by the Danes in the year 787, with design to make it a place of retreat, to which they might retire with their plunder from the neighbouring coasts. How long they continued here is unknown; but in the reign of Alfred, they again landed, and plundered the inhabitants. In 1001, in the time of Ethelred, the Unready, they once more seized the Isle, and retained it for many years, making it their head-quarters on this coast, and the place whence they issued to commit their piracies.

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* See under Redbridge, p. 154.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, it was twice plundered by Earl Godwin; and again in the time of Harold, by Earl Tosti, also a son of the Earl, who had been driven from his government in Northumberland for his oppression and cruelty. On the accession of William the Conqueror, that Sovereign granted the Lordship of the Isle of Wight to his kinsman, William Fitz-Osborne, afterwards Earl of Hereford, "to be held by him as freely as he himself held the realm of England."* Fitz-Osborne had been Marshal of the Conqueror's army at the Battle of Hastings, and, independent of the ties of consanguinity, had, by his general conduct, obtained a very high degree of his favor, insomuch, that, besides being intrusted with the custody of the newly-built Castles of Winchester and York, he was constituted Chief Justiciary for the north of England. In this capacity he acted with distinguished equity and prudence; though, with respect to his Lordship of the Isle of Wight, he seems to have assumed a more absolute authority over his dependants there, than was exercised by William himself over his English subjects; for that King confiscated the lands of such only as had been active in the support of Harold; but Fitz-Osborne ejected indiscriminately all the original possessors, excepting the officers or servants of Edward the Confessor, and granted their lands to his followers.†

This powerful Baron was soon afterwards slain in battle on the Continent. Roger, Earl of Hereford, his youngest son, and successor to the seignory of the Isle of Wight, and all the other lands which had belonged to his father in England, engaged in a conspiracy to dethrone the Conqueror, with Ralph de Waer, Earl of Norfolk, and other nobles, among whom was Waltheof Earl of Northumberland. The latter, who had only acceded to the plan in a moment of exhilaration, soon disclosed it to the K who was then in Normandy, and submitted himself to his mercy; but the obdurate Norman, no wise softened at his

* Chartulary of Carisbrooke Priory, in the possession of Sir Richard Worsley.

† Worsley's Isle of Wight, p. 48.

tence, caused him to be decapitated at Winchester. Earl Roger, who had assembled some forces in aid of his design, retired to his Castle at Hereford; but being arrested, and convicted of treason, was sentenced to perpetual imprisonment. "His spirit seems to have remained unbroken by his sufferings; for, at a solemn celebration of the feast of Easter, the King sent him his robes, when he, to show his contempt of what was doubtless meant as a compliment, caused a fire to be made, and burned them. This being reported to the King, he swore by the glory of God, that the Earl should spend the remainder of his life in prison; which oath he strictly kept, as Roger was never released, but died in confinement; and the Isle of Wight, with his other lands, escheated to the Crown."*

Henry the First granted the Lordship of this Isle, with many other lands in Hampshire, and other counties, to Richard de Redvers, Earl of Devon, who had faithfully adhered to his interests during his contention for the Throne with his elder brother, Robert. Baldwin, his son, the second Earl, was a zealous partizan of the Empress Maud, in whose cause he fortified the Isle; but was dispossessed by Stephen, and forced to become an exile. Some accommodation, however, soon afterwards taking place between the opposing claimants for empire, his estates and titles were restored, and descended to his son Richard, from whom they descended to William de Vernon, a collateral branch of the family, and whose sirname was derived from the place of his birth in Normandy. This nobleman, who was styled Earl of the Isle of Wight, was one of the four who supported the silk canopy over Richard Cœur de Lion, at his second Coronation at Winchester, after his escape from captivity. King John obliged him to pay a fine of 500 marks, before he would give him permission to exercise the right that appertained to his landed possessions; among which, was the governing his tenants in the Isle of Wight by military service. This, and the many similar acts of oppression, exercised by John on his Barons, occasioned the memorable confederacy which

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* Worsley's Isle of Wight, p. 50.

forced the degraded tyrant to sign the *Magna Charta;* which may justly be considered as the first bulwark raised to liberty after the Norman Conquest. John, however, to employ his own words, was not of a disposition "to suffer fetters of parchment" to restrain his actions; he therefore applied secretly to the Pope, for absolution from the tremendous oaths by which he had sworn to observe the extorted grants; and also empowered his minions to raise soldiers on the Continent, for the purpose of effecting his meditated revenge. While these negociations were pending he retired to this Isle, that his conduct might be less exposed to observation; and during the time of his residence here, he chiefly associated with fishermen and sailors.*

Isabella de Fortibus, great grand-daughter to William de Vernon, released the Lordship of the Isle of Wight to Edward the First, on her death-bed, for the sum of 6000 marks: and though the validity of the grant was afterwards questioned in Parliament, it was finally determined in the King's favor.† Edward kept it in his own possession till death; entrusting its defence to *Custodes*, or Wardens; one of whom was the celebrated Adam de Gurdon.

Edward the Second granted the Isle of Wight to his favorite, Piers Gaveston: but through the remonstrances of his nobility, resumed the grant the following year, and bestowed it on his eldest son, afterwards Edward the Third, in whose reign, and in that of Richard the Second, it was several times assaulted by the French, and partially plundered. Carisbrooke Castle wa then the only fortress on the Isle, and of course the only place to which the inhabitants could fly for refuge. This, in the year 1377, was besieged by the invaders, but without success; and a great number of the assailants was slain; many of them fell into an ambuscade, in a narrow

* Rapin's Hist. Eng. Vol. I. p. 277.

† See Appendix to Sir R. Worsley's Hist. for the proceedings on this occasion, extracted from the Rot. Parl. eighth and ninth of Edward the Second.

a narrow lane, near the Castle.* When the French quitted the Isle of Wight, they levied a contribution of 1000 marks, and obliged the inhabitants to swear not to resist should they revisit them within a year. In this expedition they burnt the village of Rye, and the towns of Newtown and Yarmouth.

Richard the Second, in the ninth of his reign, granted the Isle of Wight to William Montacute, second Earl of Salisbury, for life. After his death, this Lordship was granted to Edward, Earl of Rutland, and afterwards Duke of York, to which title he was restored in the seventh of Henry the Fourth. This nobleman led the van at the battle of Agincourt, in the third of Henry the Fifth; but being a fat and unwieldy man, he was thrown down in the throng, and smothered. In this reign a large party of Frenchmen again landed on the Isle of Wight, with intent, according to their own vauntings, to *keep their Christmas here:* they were, however, soon forced to retire to their ships with great loss. A short time after this defeat, they made another hostile visit, demanding a subsidy in the name of Richard the Second, and Isabella, his Queen. "They were answered, that Richard was dead, and his Queen sent back to France, without the payment of any subsidy being stipulated: but if the French had any desire to try their prowess, they should not only be permitted to land without molestation, but also be allowed six hours to refresh themselves, after which the Islanders would meet them in the field."† This spirited invitation the invaders thought prudent to decline.

In the seventeenth of Henry the Sixth, Humphrey, the good Duke of Glocester, succeeded to the Lordship of the Isle of Wight, by virtue of a grant of the reversion from the Duchess of York, to whom it had been regranted on the death of her husband at Agincourt.

* "The lane is still called Deadman's Lane; and a tumulus, where the slain were buried, was exultingly called *Noddies Hill:* the cause of this denomination was in danger of being lost; the hill being built upon, and forming one of the avenues to Newport, is now corrupted into *Node Hill.*" *Worsley's Hist. Isle of Wight*, p. 32.

† Worsley's Hist. p. 33.

court. This nobleman appears to have retained it till the time of his death; though two years previous to that event, Henry Beauchamp, Duke of Warwick, was crowned *King* of the Isle of Wight, by patent from Henry the Sixth, who himself assisted at the ceremony, and placed the crown on the Duke's head.* He died soon afterwards, without male issue; and, on the decease of Duke Humphrey, the Lordship again reverted to the Crown; but was shortly afterwards in the possession of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, and father of Edward the Fourth, who was slain at the Battle of Wakefield.

In the thirty-first of Henry the Sixth, the Isle of Wight was granted to Edmund, Duke of Somerset, who had married the sister and coheiress of Henry, Duke of Warwick, in satisfaction, as it was alledged, for "certain sums of money due to him from the King's Exchequer, and for the duties of petty customs in the port of London, which were part of his inheritance."† This Duke was slain at the battle of St. Alban's; and his possessions, including this Lordship, descended to his son Henry, who was beheaded by the Yorkists, after the battle of Hexham.

In the sixth of Edward the Fourth, Anthony de Widville, afterwards Earl Rivers, had a grant of this Isle, together with the Castle of Carisbrooke, and all other rights appertaining to the Lordship. This ill-fated Lord was beheaded at Pontefract in 1483, to further the ambitious designs of Richard, Duke of Glocester. His brother, Sir Edward Widville, was, in the first of Henry the Seventh, made Captain of the Isle of Wight; and about three years afterwards, to ingratiate himself in the King's favor, by promoting what he conceived to be his wishes, he convened the inhabitants, and persuaded them to undertake an expedition to France, in aid of

* This singular event, observes Sir Richard Worsley, has been l noticed by our historians. Leland is the chief authority; but his : mony is confirmed by a painting of the Duke in an ancient windc the collegiate Church at Warwick, in which he is represented witl. Imperial crown on his head, and a sceptre before him.

† In Officio Remembr. Thes.

of the Duke of Brittany, who was then in arms against the French Monarch. From the numbers that flocked to his standard, he selected about forty gentlemen, and 400 of the commonalty, and embarked with them for Brittany in four vessels. These auxiliaries were clothed in white coats, with red crosses; and, to make them appear the more numerous, they were united to 1500 of the Duke's forces, arrayed in the same uniform. Victory, however, proved unpropitious; and in a battle fought at St. Aubin's, Sir Edward, and all the English, were slain, except one boy, who reached home with the melancholy tidings. There was scarcely a family in the Isle who lost not some relation or other on this mournful occasion. To encourage an increase of population, an act was soon afterwards passed, prohibiting any of the inhabitants from holding lands, farms, or tithes, above the annual rent of *ten* marks.

Whether Sir Edward had received a grant of the Lordship of the Isle of Wight is uncertain; but, from the period of his death, it has continued in the Crown; though some lands, that are annexed to the Castle at Carisbrooke, are held by the Governor *jure officii*. The *fee-farm* of the Isle, together with the Castle, and the manors of Swainston, Brixton, Thorley, and Wellow, were, however, leased for life to Sir Reginald Bray, by Henry the Seventh, in the tenth of his reign, subject to an annual payment to the Crown of 307 marks.

From the time that Edward the First purchased this Lordship from Isabella de Fortibus, its defence was generally entrusted to some person nominated by the Crown, and who was distinguished by the appellation of Warden, Captain, or Governor; titles which obtained in the order here enumerated. Richard Worsley, Esq. ancestor to Sir R. Worsley, Bart. of Appuldurcombe, was Captain here in the thirty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, when the French landed 2000 men from the fleet commanded by D'Annebaut.† The enemy held a council of war, in which it was proposed, to fortify and keep possession of the Isle; but this being deemed im-

* Life of Henry the Seventh, by Lord Verulam, p. 48, 62.

† See under Portsmouth, p. 317.

practicable by the majority, they began to plunder and burn the villages. They were, however, suddenly attacked by the Captain, and obliged to fly to their ships with the loss of their General, and a great number of men. Several forts were soon afterwards constructed on different parts of the coast, for the future prevention of descents; and the Islanders were also induced by their Captain to provide a train of artillery at their own expense. He also introduced the use of fire arms; and an armourer was settled in Carisbrooke Castle to make harquebusses, and to keep them in order.*

When the liberties of Britain were menaced by the Invincible Armada, Sir George Carey, afterwards Lord Hunsdon, was Captain or Governor of the Isle of Wight; but his administration, though generally beneficial, was not entirely agreeable to the Islanders, who thought that he assumed more authority than either necessity demanded, or their rights allowed. A statement of grievances was in consequence drawn up, and laid before the Lords of the Council,

* Worsley's Hist. p. 95 "The ancient military force of this Island, with the arrays, arms, beacons, watches, and wards, prescribed in time of danger, may in some measure be collected from those authentic records, and genuine papers, which have escaped the ravages of time. By a return to an inquisition taken at Newport, in the seventh of Edward the Third, it appears, that the landholders were, by their tenures, obliged to defend the Castle of Carisbrooke for forty days at their own charges. and two other inquisitions, taken at Shide Bridge, the eighteenth of Edward the Second, specify the several watches and beacons, and likewise show that every person having 20l. per annum in lands, was obliged to find a horseman completely armed; or more or less so, in proportion to his possessions, according to the statute of Winchester. By another inquisition, taken at Newport in the sixteenth of Edward the Third, it is returned, that the Earls of Devon, Lords of the Isle, sent seventy-six men at arms from the County of Devon for its defence; and that after Edward the First obtained the Island from the Countess Isabella, men at arms were sent for its protection by divers Bishops, Abbots, and other persons who are there n specified. It also mentions that the King sent 100 slingers and bowmen, and the city of London 300 for the

cil, but without producing any result of importance, the threatened danger of the state outweighing the minor considerations of individual security.* During the residence here of Henry, Earl of Southampton, who was appointed Governor and Captain by James the First, this Isle became very flourishing; the hospitality and affable disposition of the Earl attracting numerous visitants.

Early in the Civil Wars, the Parliament obtained possession of the Isle of Wight, by the removal of Jerom, Earl of Portland,

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the same service. The number of men raised by the landholders of the Island, are found in an old roll without date, but which, by the names of some of the persons charged, appears to have been made early in the reign of Edward the Third, &c.

The authority of the Warden seems to have been very extensive, as appears from a commission granted in the twenty-sixth of Edward the Third, to John de Gattesden, appointing him to that office: it authorised him to array the men at arms, hoblers,† and bowmen, with all others, as well horse as foot; to levy new forces, if those already arrayed were found insufficient; to provide them with weapons, and to marshal them. He was empowered to take men, who were to be paid by the King, from the County of Southampton, as well as from the Island; and that not only within, but also without the liberties. He was likewise to summon all absentees, who were bound by their tenures to defend Carisbrooke Castle, or the Isle; to order them to return with their families within a limited time, under penalty of forfeiting their lands and tenements, goods and chattels, to the King's use; and in case of non-compliance, the said men to supply their places." *Ibid.* p. 35, 36.

* The great power which the Captains of the Isle of Wight had about this period, may be instanced, by the curious anecdote respecting attorneys, quoted by Sir Richard Worsley from the papers of Sir John Oglander, a descendant from one of the most ancient families in this Island, and who lived at the beginning of the seventeenth century. "I have heard," observes the Knight, "and partly know it to be true, that not only heretofore there was no lawyer nor attorney in owre Island; but in Sir George Carey's time, an attorney coming in to settle in the Island, was by his command, with a pound of candles hanging att his breech lighted,

† Hoblers were soldiers lightly armed, and mounted on small horses, or hobbies.

who was attached to the cause of the ill-fated Charles; and whose "extraordinary vivacity," observes Clarendon, "crossed their expectations."* They, indeed, not only removed, but committed him to prison, objecting against him, "all the acts of good fellowship, all the waste of powder, and all the waste of wine, in the drinking of healths, and other acts of jollity, which even he had been at in his government, from the hour of his entering upon it."† The principal inhabitants petitioned Parliament in his favor, and afterwards signed a declaration to support the cause of royalty; but the popular voice was wholly dissentient; and Moses Read, the Mayor of Newport, represented to the Parliament, that the safety of the Isle was endangered, while the Countess of Portland, and Colonel Brett, who had been appointed by the King, were suffered to retain possession of Carisbrooke Castle. "The Parliament, in consequence of Read's representation, directed the Captains of the ships in the river to assist him in any measures he should think necessary for securing the Island. Read accordingly marched the Newport militia, with 400 naval auxiliaries, against the Castle, where Brett had not above twenty men; many well-wishers to him and the Countess being deterred from assisting them by the menaces of the populace, who now threw off all respect for their superiors. Harby, the Curate of Newport, a man under peculiar obligations to the Earl of Portland, distinguished himself in spiriting up the besiegers against his lady and children; assigning for a reason, her being a Papist; and exhorting them, in the canting phraseology

lighted, with bells about his legs, hunted owte of the Island: insomuch that our ancestors lived here so quietly and securely, being neither troubled to London nor Winchester, so they seldom or never went owte of the Island; insomuch as when they went to London, thinking it an East-India voyage, they always made their wills, supposing no trouble like to travaile." In another part of his writings, Sir John remarks, that "peace and *law* hath beggared us all;" but since his time, the legal practitioners have so greatly increased, that many of the inhabitants make little scruple of wishing that Sir G. Ca[illegible] was alive again.

* Clarendon's Hist. B. VI. p. 531. † Ibid.

seology of the times, to be valiant, as they were about to fight the battle of the Lord.

"The Castle had not at that time three days provision for its slender garrison; yet the Countess, with the magnanimity of a Roman matron, went to the platform with a match in her hand, vowing she would fire the first cannon herself, and defend the Castle to the utmost extremity, unless honorable terms were granted. After some negociations, articles of capitulation were agreed on, and the Castle surrendered: these were, that Colonel Brett, the gentlemen with him, and their servants, who composed the garrison, should be allowed the freedom of the Island: but were restricted from going to Portsmouth, which was then held for the King by Goring. The Countess was to retain her lodgings in the Castle, until the contrary should be directed by Parliament. An order arrived soon afterwards, prescribing her removal from the Isle within two days after notice given her; and she was then indebted to the humanity of the seamen for the vessel which conveyed her and her family"* to the coast of Hampshire.

The other forts in this Isle were also seized; and on the arrival of Philip, Earl of Pembroke, whom the Parliament had appointed Governor, he was respectfully received by the inhabitants, who tendered him their best services. This decisive step in favor of the prevailing powers, happily prevented the occurrence of those scenes of bloodshed which speedily desolated the other parts of the kingdom. Indeed, the security which was here enjoyed, induced many families to become residents; and the rent of land increased about twenty-five per cent. in consequence, but fell again soon after the Restoration.

The flight of Charles the First from Hampton Court, and the subsequent events of his melancholy life, have a memorable connection with this Isle; for hither the fallen Monarch was conducted after his unconditional surrender to Colonel Robert Hammond, at Titchfield House. Hammond was then Governor here; and Charles presuming on his relationship to Dr. Henry Hammond, his

* Worsley's Hist. p. 115, 116.

his own Chaplain,* thought that he should be safe under the Colonel's protection, till he had an opportunity to make proper terms of accommodation with his enemies. His expectations were, however, deceived; for Hammond had yet a closer connection with the adverse party than with the King's Chaplain; as, by the interest of Cromwell, he had married the daughter of the famous Hampden, and been promoted to the government of the Isle of Wight. For some time, however, he treated his Royal Master with every attention, lodging him in Carisbrooke Castle, not as a prisoner, but as a guest, and suffered him to ride out for recreation, when and wherever he pleased. This conduct was not agreeable to the designs of the ruling powers; and Hammond was ordered not to permit the attendance on the King, of any of the persons who had served him at Oxford; and also to prevent the King's Chaplains from the future exercise of their respective functions. The day succeeding the dismission of the King's servants, rendered his own situation less equivocal; he was deprived of the liberty of ranging about the country, and confined within the walls of the Castle; but some degree of personal freedom was still permitted him by Hammond. Even this, however, was afterwards abridged, through the injudicious attempts made to contrive his rescue; and the King for a time suffered the vigor of his mind to bend to the pressure of his fate, and gave way to emotions of despondency.

At length, in the year 1648, the House of Commons determined to revive their negociations with the captive Monarch: a new treaty was proposed, and the town of Newport was appointed as the place of deliberation. Here the King was to enjoy the same state of freedom as when last at Hampton Court; and to be attended by servants of his own appointment; after giving his Royal word not to leave the Isle during the treaty, nor for twenty days after, without the advice of both Houses of Parliament. The sway of the Parliament was now, however, more nominal than real; and, after negociations had been opened, and continued for upwards of

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* Colonel Hammond was the Chaplain's nephew.

two months, the army, with Fairfax at their head, determined to seize the King, notwithstanding the pledge that had been given by the House of Commons. Colonel Ewes was dispatched to the Isle of Wight for this purpose; and Hammond, from whom some opposition was probably expected, was ordered in the mean time to attend at head-quarters.

On the evening of the twenty-ninth of November, the King received intimation, through a person in disguise, that the army meant to seize on him that night. Somewhat alarmed, though doubtful of the truth, he immediately required the attendance of the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Lindsay, and Colonel Cooke, to whom he communicated the information he had received. The Colonel was then sent to make inquiry of Major Rolfe, whom Hammond had left as Deputy Governor, whether any design of that nature was entertained. Rolfe denied all knowledge of such an intent; saying, "You may assure the King from me, that he may rest quietly this night; for on my life he shall have no disturbance this night." The Colonel remarking that he laid great emphasis on the words *this night,* urged him to declare whether there was any intention of seizing the King at all. After some pause, he answered, that "It was impossible for him to know the purposes of the army at so great a distance, but that as yet, he had received no such orders." After some further conversation on the same subject, the Colonel returned to inform the King; and was again sent back to inqure into the truth of a report which Charles had just heard, of a great number of troops having landed on the Island that evening.

During the short interval of the Colonel's second absence, the King was informed, that 2000 foot soldiers were drawn up round Carisbrooke Castle. At this he seemed greatly agitated; exclaiming, "Surely there must be some very extraordinary business in hand, that can cause such a body of men to be so secretly landed, and in so bitter a night as this, exposed to the extremity of the weather;" the wind then blowing very high, and the rain falling very fast. Expressing, also, an anxious desire for further information, Colonel Cooke again offered his services; and the night being ex-

tremely dark, with great difficulty found his way to the Castle; and having rode round it without meeting any troops, he took shelter under the gateway, to cover himself from the violence of the rain. Here he endeavored to obtain information from the soldiers, but without success; when recollecting that a Captain Bowreman, with whom he was well acquainted, was in the garrison, he desired to speak with him. After some time, he was invited in, and was surprised by the sight of above a dozen officers of the army, most of whom he knew. After mutual salutations, he desired to speak with the Governor in private; but was plainly told by Captain Bowreman, "That he was no better than a prisoner in his own garrison, being threatened with immediate death, if he so much as whispered to any of his servants." Some other circumstances increased the Colonel's suspicion that the seizure of the King was actually intended, and he again departed for Newport.

On his arrival, he found that guards had been placed round the King's lodgings, and even at every avenue, not excepting the windows, and the chamber-door; so that the King was greatly incommoded by the smoke of their matches. The centinels, however, whose matches proved most offensive, were removed on application to Major Rolfe, and the Captain of the guard. The former accounted for the increased number of troops round the King, by observing, that the two companies had been drawn out so late, that quarters could not be provided for them that night; and he had therefore thought of the expedient of having the guards doubled.

Such a combination of events left little doubt on the mind of Charles, of the intention of his foes; and he was strongly urged to attempt his escape while it was yet practicable, both by the Duke of Richmond, and the Earl of Lindsay: and the former, to show the possibility of the measure, passed twice through all the guards, disguised in a cloak, and accompanied by Colonel Cooke. The King, however, strongly objected; but on the Lords resuming their persuasions, suddenly commanded the Colonel to give him him his advice, which the latter immediately suggested in these words: "Suppose I should not only tell your Majesty, that the

army

army mean suddenly to seize upon your person, but, by concurring circumstances, should fully convince you of it: supposing also, that, beside the pass-word, I have horses ready at hand, a vessel attending, and hourly expecting me at Cowes, myself both ready and desirous of attending your Majesty, and the darkness of the night, as it were, suited to the purpose, so that I can foresee no visible difficulty in the thing: the only remaining question is, what will your Majesty resolve to do?" After a short pause, the King returned this positive answer: "They have promised me, and I have promised them: I will not break first."

This reply left very few hopes of shaking the King's determination; but the Earl of Lindsay and the Colonel still continued to press him to escape: he at length ordered them to retire to rest, and went himself to bed, the Duke of Richmond remaining in waiting. About day-break, the King heard a great knocking at his outer door; and sending the Duke to learn the cause, was informed, that several officers from the army were desirous of speaking with him. He immediately gave orders for their admission; when rushing into the bed-chamber before the King could rise from his bed, they abruptly told him, they had orders for his removal. He inquired, "Whither?" and was answered, "To the Castle." "*The* Castle," said the King, on receiving a similar answer to a second question, "is no Castle;" but adding, that he was well enough prepared for any Castle; they at length named Hurst Castle. "Indeed," said the Sovereign, "you could not well have named a worse." Thus was the King's confidence betrayed; and the short-lived freedom which he had enjoyed at Newport, proved the immediate prelude to captivity and death.

The Duke of Richmond, observing the anxiety of the officers for the immediate removal of the King, ordered his breakfast to be hastened; yet, before he was well ready, the horses arrived; and Charles was hurried away. The Duke accompanied him for about two miles; but was then told, that he 'must go no further!' on which, he took a sad farewell of the King, and returned to the lodgings of the Earl of Lindsay and Colonel Cooke, who were now first informed of the King's removal. They then all left the Island,

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accompanied by the Earl and Countess of Southampton, and landing near Titchfield, the seat of the Earl, proceeded to his house, where, on the following morning, they drew up a narrative of the events in which they had been so lately engaged; and the original manuscript was afterwards deposited in the British Museum.* Charles was beheaded in about seven weeks after the occurrence of the events here related.

No transaction of distinguished historical importance has since been recorded in the annals of this Isle. Its defence from foreign invasion is now intrusted to a proper distribution of the regular force, to its militia, and to its numerous volunteers: the latter alone amount to 3500; several hundred of whom are sea fencibles. The present Governor is Lord Bolton, whose annual salary is 500l. besides the rents of the Isle, which he enjoys by his patent.

The form of the Isle of Wight is that of an irregular lozenge: from the eastern to the western angle it measures nearly twenty-three miles, and from the northern to the southern, about thirteen; its superficies is supposed to include 105,000 acres. Through the middle of it, in the longest direction, extends a range of high hills, affording excellent pasturage for sheep, and commanding views over every part of the Isle, with the Ocean on the south side, and on the north, the beautiful coasts of Hampshire. The face of the country is very diversified; hill and dale, the swelling promontory and the lowly glen, appear in quick succession to animate, and give interest to the prospects. The land round the coast is, in some parts, very high, particularly on the south, or *back of the Island,* as it is commonly termed; here the cliffs are very steep, and vast fragments of rock, which the waves have undermined, lie scattered along the shore: on the northern side, the ground slopes to the water in easy declivities, excepting towards the *Needles,* or western point, where the rocks are bare, broken, and precipitous.

The height of the cliffs, of which the Needles form the extreme point, is, in some places, 600 feet above the level of the sea, and when

* From this manuscript, as quoted by Sir Richard Worsley, the above particulars were derived.

when viewed from the distance of about a quarter of a mile, have a very sublime and stupendous effect. "These cliffs are frequented by immense numbers of marine birds; as puffins, razor-bills, will-cocks, gulls, cormorants, Cornish-choughs, daws, starlings, and wild pigeons; some of which come, at stated times, to lay their eggs and breed, while others remain there all the year. The cliffs are in some places perpendicular; in others, they project and hang over, in a tremendous manner: the several strata form many shelves; these serve as lodgements for the birds. where they sit in thick rows, and discover themselves by their motions and flight, though not individually visible. Here are many caverns and deep chasms that seem to enter a great way into the rocks; and in many places, the issuing of springs forms small cascades of rippling water down to the sea. The country people take the birds that harbour in these rocks, by the perilous experiment of descending by ropes fixed to iron crows, driven into the ground: thus suspended, they with sticks beat down the birds as they fly out of their holes. A dozen birds generally yield one pound weight of soft feathers, for which the merchants give eightpence; the carcases are bought by the fishermen, at sixpence per dozen, for the purpose of baiting their crab-pots."* The rocks called the Needles, obtained their name from a lofty pointed one, resembling a needle in shape, which had been disjointed, with the others, from the main land, by the force of the waves: this was 120 feet high above low-water mark; but nearly forty years ago, it fell, and totally disappeared, its base having been undermined by the sea.

All the higher parts of the Isle are composed of an immense mass of *Calcareous* matter, of a chalky nature, incumbent on *schistus*, which runs under the whole Isle, and appears, at low-water mark, on the coast near Mottiston: this becomes so indurated by exposure to the air, as to make very good whetstones. The lime-stone is burnt for manure; and in the pits where it is dug for that purpose, are found numerous echini, shark's teeth, and ammoniæ. These fossils are particularly abundant in the range

* Worsley's Hist. p. 273.

range of cliffs which forms the southern shore; together with bi-valve and turbinated shells of various descriptions: the cornua ammonis are of all sizes, from one inch, to a foot and a half in diameter. A stratum of *Coal* discovers itself at the foot of Bimbridge Cliff, and runs through the southern part of the Isle, appearing again at Warden Ledge, in Freshwater parish. On the north side of this stratum lies a vein of white *Sand*, and another of *Fuller's Earth*; and on the south side is another of red *Ochre*. The coal is reported to be of good quality: the upper part of the stratum is about three feet wide: it dips to the northward. A shaft was sunk by the late Sir Robert Worsley at Bimbridge, to ascertain its depth; but the vein was there so thin, that it was judged insufficient to defray the expense; and the undertaking was abandoned.

Free-stones, of several descriptions are found here; but none of superior quality; though that obtained in the quarries near Quarr Abbey, was some ages ago in much request; but the superior nature of the Portland stone has long destroyed its reputation. Red and yellow *Ochres* are particularly observable in Allum Bay, to the north of the Needles, where their mingled strata variegate the cliffs: in this Bay, native *Allum* is found in considerable quantities. Here also, and at Freshwater, are immense beds of micacious or silvery *Sand*, great quantities of which are annually shipped off for the glass and china manufactories of London, Bristol, and Worcester. Small masses of native sulphur are frequently picked up on different parts of the shore, as well as *Copperas Stones*: the latter are so extremely abundant on the south coast, that several small vessels are employed in freighting them to London, for the purpose of extracting the copperas. Argilla apyra, or *pipe-clay*, is likewise very plentiful in different parts of the Isle.

The *Soils* are very various, but the prevailing kind is a strong, loamy earth, well-adapted for agricultural purposes, and extremely fertile. The quantity of grain annually raised here, is computed to amount to seven or eight times the quantity necessary for all the inhabitants. The farms vary in size; theirgeneral rental being from 100l. to 400l. per annum, with a few at 500l. The average rent per acre is about seventeen shillings. The sorts of grain chiefly cultivated,

cultivated, are wheat, barley, oats, beans, and peas: turnips, clover, trefoil, vetches, rye-grass, and potatoes, are also grown here. The rotation of crops varies according to the qualities of the soil: in the eastern and central parts, the course is wheat, barley, clover, and wheat; but on the stiff clays, the latter is only sown once in four years: in the southern part, the rotation is wheat, fallow and turnips, barley, and clover; in the western part, turnips, barley, clover, rye-grass, and wheat. The medium produce of wheat, throughout the whole Isle, is about twenty-one bushels per acre; the medium produce of barley and oats is about thirty bushels per acre; and of beans and pease, about twenty-eight bushels: potatoes are very productive, though not greatly in esteem; and turnips also yield a great increase. The meadow lands are extremely rich, and produce from one to three tons of fine hay per acre. The grain is in general sown broad-cast; but the drill-system has been introduced of late years, and found to answer exceedingly well in the light and sandy soils. The manures are, lime, marl, and the product of the farm-yard: wheat is generally sown in October, and cut in August. The elevated tracts are mostly appropriated to pasturing sheep; the number annually shorn is about 40,000; the wool is extremely fine, and in much repute: the breed in general use is the Dorsetshire: about 5000 lambs are sold annually.

The *Cows* are principally of the Devonshire and the Alderney breed, though blended with other kinds: the butter is very good; but the cheese, which is made of the skim-milk, bears the appropriate name of *Isle of Wight Rock*: the calves are remarkably fine. The *Horses* are in general large; and as the farmers value themselves on the strength and beauty of their teams, great pains are taken to improve them. The breed of *Hogs* is somewhat peculiar; they are large and tall, and make excellent bacon.

The *Climate* is extremely salubrious, and highly favorable to vegetation; its genial qualities, and near approximation in mildness to more southern regions, may be instanced by the profusion of genial myrtles, and by the flourishing state of a vine-plantation in the grounds of Sir R. Worsley, at Appuldurcombe. The central parts

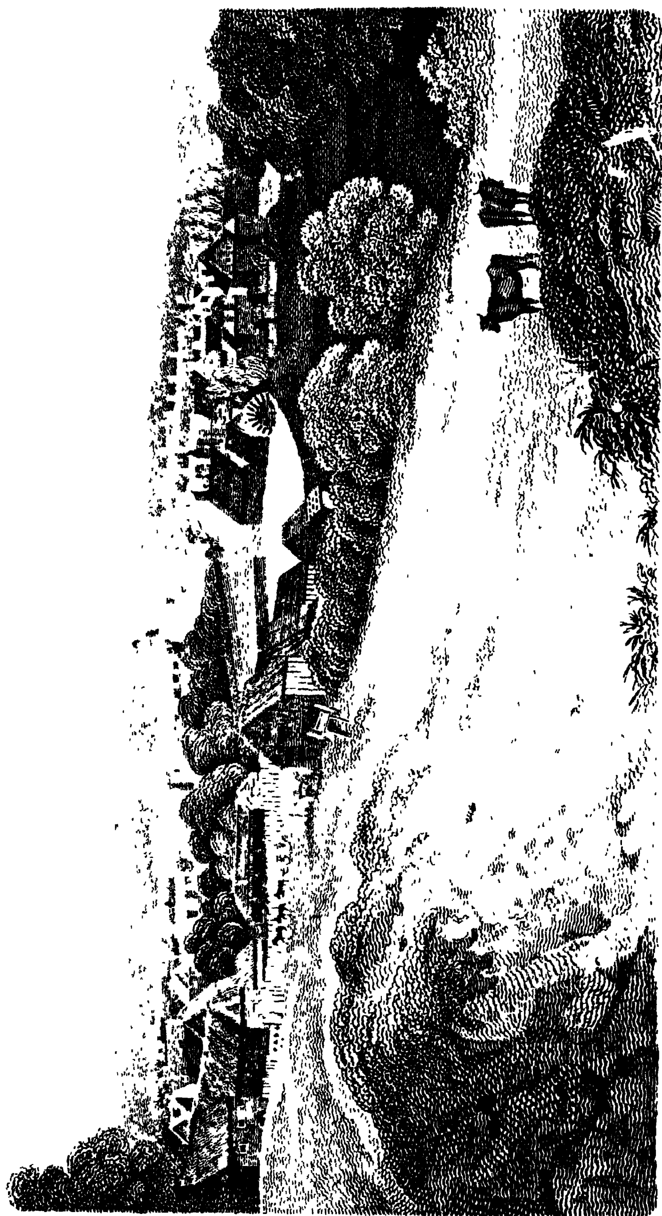
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of the Isle are subject to frequent rains; the high range of hills proving a constant source of attraction to the vapours, and in the winter months, involving all beneath them in gloom and humidity. The general fertility, however, is so little affected, and the vegetation is so abundant, that this Island has often been styled the *Garden of England;* an appellation, perhaps, that is partly suggested to the mind by the innumerable plants and flowers which grow every where in wild luxuriance: among them are the *ophrys apifera*, or bee-orchis; the *digitalis*, or fox-glove; and the *crithmum maritimum*, or rock-samphire.

The contiguity of the Portsmouth, and other yards for ship-building, has operated to deprive the Isle of Wight of much of its timber; and even Parkhurst, or Carisbrooke, Forest, which includes about 3000 acres of good land, is almost destitute of trees of any value. The woods of Swainston are of considerable extent; and those of Wooten and Quarr, cover a superficies of nearly 1100 acres the oak and the elm are the most flourishing. Game is very plentiful, though not so abundant as formerly, owing to the greater havock made of late years by the numerous soldiers stationed here. Foxes, badgers, and polecats, are unknown in the Island; though vipers exist in great plenty, and are caught in large numbers for medicinal purposes. Domestic fowls, and poultry, are bred here in considerable quantities, for the supply of the outward-bound shipping.

Great variety of *Fish* is found on the coast, and in considerable abundance: those of the crustaceous kind are particularly numerous on the southern shores. The lobster and crab are of uncommon size, and extremely fine. some of the former are upwards of six pounds in weight; the latter is so abundant on a particular part of the coast, that a neighbouring village has obtained the name of *Crab*-Niton from this circumstance. The Isle of Wight cockles are very celebrated; the sand-eel is also very plentiful. the cuttle-fish is occasionally taken.

The trade of the Isle of Wight is flourishing; the harbour of Cowes is particularly convenient for shipping and unshipping merchandize. The chief imports are coals, timber, deals, iron, wine



hemp, and fruits; the principal exports are wheat, flour, barley, malt, and salt. The chief manufactures are those of starch, hair-powder, and salt; and latterly, the making of woollens, sacks &c. has been carried to some extent in the House of Industry, near Newport.

Several *Chalybeate* springs have been found in different parts of the Island; one of them, at Black Gang, under Chale Cliff, is very strong: about half a mile from this, at Pitland, is a spring, impregnated with *sulphur;* and at Shanklin, is a spring whose waters are slightly tinctured with *allum.* The springs of clear water are very numerous, and, in general, extremely pure and transparent, from the natural percolation which they undergo through the lime-stone strata.

The principal RIVERS are the *Medina,* the *Yar,* and the *Wooten.* The Medina, anciently called the *Mede,* rises near the bottom of St. Catherine's Down, and flowing directly northward, divides the Island into two equal parts: gradually widening in its course, it passes to the east of Newport, and in Cowes Harbour, unites its waters with the ocean. Numerous smaller streams also exist; and various creeks and bays run up from the sea. The two hundreds into which the Island is divided by the Medina, are named East and West Medina, from their respective situations to that river: they contain thirty parishes; and the three market and borough-towns of Newport, Newtown, and Yarmouth, each of which returns two members to Parliament. The population of the Isle of Wight, as ascertained under the Act of 1801, was 22,097; the number of houses 3687.

NEWPORT

Is situated nearly in the centre, and may be considered as the Metropolis of the Island. Its recent origin, however, has prevented the accumulation of antiquities, and it presents but few objects of curiosity to engage the attention of the traveller. The more favorable situation of this place for commercial purposes, than that of Carisbrooke, appears to have occasioned the decay of the latter town, and

to have been the rise of this. Its first charter of immunities was granted by Richard de Redvers, second Earl of Devon, in the reign of Henry the Second; but contains little more than a grant of liberties in general terms. In a second and more important charter, granted by the Countess Isabella de Fortibus, this town is styled the *New Borough of Medina;* and its Burgesses are invested with all the market tolls, and "all other customs whence free Burgesses can have liberty," in as full and ample a manner as the Countess herself enjoyed them: various other privileges accompanied the grant; and for all the immunities and freedoms thus bestowed, a yearly rent of eighteen marks of silver was reserved to the Countess, and two marks annually to the Prior and Monks of Carisbrooke, to whom the tolls, &c. of the market of that town belonged. This charter was confirmed by Edward the Third, and various succeeding Sovereigns, to the time of Queen Elizabeth, whose immediate predecessor, Edward the Sixth, confirmed also to the Burgesses, the petty customs within all ports and creeks of the Island, which had been bestowed on them by Henry the Seventh.

The first charter of incorporation was granted to Newport by James the First; but that under which it is now governed, was given by Charles the Second, in his thirteenth year: by it the government is vested in a Mayor, Recorder, ten Aldermen, and twelve Burgesses; the latter of whom are to be chosen from among the principal inhabitants, and the Aldermen from these. The earliest return to Parliament was in the twenty-third of Edward the First; but no subsequent return was made till the twenty-seventh of Elizabeth, when the interest of Sir George Carey, Captain of the Isle, occasioned a restitution of the privilege; the mistaken gratitude of the Burgesses was evinced by the immediate surrender to Sir George, of the right to nominate one of the members during "his natural life:" the right of election is vested in the Corporation.

The situation of Newport is high and pleasant: on the east side it is watered by the chief branch of the Medina River, and on the west, by a small stream which rises at Rayner's Grove, about three

mile.

miles distant, and falls into the former at the Quay, where the Medina becomes navigable. The houses are disposed into five parallel streets, running east and west, and crossed by three others at right angles. The buildings are mostly of brick; and some of them are handsome. In the original plan of the town, it was intended that there should have been three large squares, at the intersections of the streets, to serve as markets for cattle, corn, and poultry; but the uniformity of this design has been destroyed by various encroachments.

The *Church* was originally (and still is) a Chapel of Ease to Carisbrooke, but the inhabitants appear to have gradually obtained a power of choosing their own ministers; and the parish seems to have been considered as independent, for many years previous to 1794, when the Vicar of Carisbrooke determined to resume his dormant rights, and on a vacancy, nominated a minister himself, in opposition to the wish of the inhabitants. This fabric stands in the centre of one of the squares of the town: it is spacious, but low, and consists of three aisles, of equal length, separated from each other by pointed arches; at the west end is an embattled tower. Its patron Saint is St. Thomas á Becket, from which circumstance it is supposed to have been founded about the time of Henry the Second; but the architecture is of different periods. The various mechanical instruments, that are sculptured on the south wall, as hammers, shears, &c. render the opinion probable, that part of the expenses of building was defrayed by a subscription of the mechanics of the town. The pulpit is of wainscot, ornamented with figures curiously carved on the pannels, in alto-relievo, representing the Cardinal Virtues and the Liberal Arts: under the sounding-board is the date 1636. The principal monument displays a recumbent statue of SIR EDWARD HORSEY, Knt. who was Captain of this Island in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Sir Edward is represented in armour, with short hair, and a quilled ruff, lying on a mat, beneath an ornamented niche. Above is a Latin epitaph, expressive of his courage and virtues, with his arms quartered, and the date of his decease, March 29, 1582. [illegible] gentleman was descended from an ancient family, settled at

Melcombe-Horsey, in Dorsetshire, and acquired renown for his skill and valor in clearing the Channel from the enemy's ships. Though a far better man, he was particularly favored by the worthless Earl of Leicester, with the management of whose clandestine marriage with Lady Douglas Sheffield, he had been entrusted, and kept the secret so faithfully, 'that the crafty Earl was enabled to deny it, when under the temptation of a fresh amour.' By the interest of Leicester, he was appointed to the Captainship of this Isle; he was also employed by Queen Elizabeth as Ambassador to Don John of Austria in 1576-77.* Among the other persons buried in this fabric, was the Princess Elisabeth, second daughter of Charles the First, who died a prisoner in Carisbrooke Castle at the age of fifteen. The leaden coffin including her remains, was discovered in a vault under the chancel, in October, 1793: on it is the following inscription in three lines: "ELISABETH 2[d] DAUGHTER OF Y[e] LATE KING CHARLES, DECED SEPT. 8. MDCL." Sandford, in his Genealogical History, affirms, that the Princess died of a broken heart. A burial-ground was first appropriated to this Church, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in consequence of a plague, in which the mortality was so great, that the Church-yard of Carisbrooke was not sufficiently capacious for the interment of the dead. The Roman Catholics, the Methodists, the Arminians, the Baptists, and the Quakers, have each a Meeting-House in this town.

In the *Town-Hall*, which is situated over the largest of the market-places, besides the Meetings of the Corporation, &c. is held the *Knighten Court*, or *Curia Militum*, under the precedency of the Governor's Steward, or his deputy. This court was instituted in the feudal times; and, as supposed, by William Fitz-Osborne, to whom the Island was granted by the Conqueror. The original judges were such as held a Knight's fee, or part of a fee, *in capite*, from the proprietor of the Lordship: the present judges are freeholders, holding of Carisbrooke Castle: these are empowered to decide without the intervention of a jury, and generally sit in rotation, or as

* The very great abundance of game with which this Island was stored, tradition refers to Sir Edward, who is reported to have given a lamb for every hare that was brought to him from the neighbouring counties.

as convenience dictates, three or more at a time. The court is held every Monday three weeks, except that happens to be a holiday, when the meeting is postponed for three weeks longer: it has jurisdiction over every part of the Island, but the Borough of Newport: "it holds pleas of all actions of debt and trespass under the value of forty shillings; and upon replevins granted by the Steward, or his Deputy: the proceedings are of the same nature as those in our Courts of Equity, and are carried on by attornies admitted by the court. The actions for debt are tried by proof of plaintiff or defendant; or the defendant's wager of law with two hands, if he prays it; and actions of trespass are determined by proof only."* The seal of this court represents a castle with battlements, with the inscription SIGIL: CVRIÆ: MIL: IN: INSVLA: VECTIS: ✠. Some endeavors were made by the inhabitants of the Island, in the reign of Charles the First, to render the powers of this Court more analagous to those wherein all causes are determined by jury; but without effect.

The markets are plentifully supplied with provision, but especially with poultry and butter; yet the latter is very dear: fish are extremely scarce, and are mostly brought from Southampton. Vast quantities of grain were formerly exposed for sale here, to the amount of 150 or 200 waggon-loads at a time; but the illegal practice of selling corn by sample, which has lately obtained, has so greatly reduced the market in this article, that not more than five or six waggons have been exposed at once for these five years. At the Michaelmas markets, Newport is a scene of great bustle; every street is crowded, and every public-house is thronged: gaiety has universal sway; and singing and dancing fill up the hours.

The education of youth has been attended to by the establishment of several Schools. A *Free Grammar School*, for a limited number of boys, was erected by subscription in the year 1619, and afterwards endowed with lands for the support of a master; but it has now almost dwindled to a sinecure; the school-room is fifty

* Worsley's Hist. p. 82.

feet long, and has become memorable from having been the place where the negociations between Charles the First and the Parliamentary Commissioners were discussed. Another *School*, for clothing and instructing girls, has been instituted here, and is partly supported by endowments, and partly by subscription. Two *Sunday Schools* have also been established under the patronage of the principal inhabitants, and bid fair to become of the most essential utility.

The number of houses in Newport is about 700: that of inhabitants, as returned under the Act of 1801, was 3585; this, however, is subject to great variation, from local circumstances. Many of the working classes are employed in the manufacture of starch and hair-powder; and in the making of cracknells, biscuit, &c. for the use of the shipping. The amusements of the upper ranks are sought in a neat *Theatre;* and in *Assemblies,* held at stated times, in two elegant rooms that have been erected for the purpose.

For the promotion of science, a *Philosophical Society* has been lately established here. The streets were regularly paved a few years ago; and, in digging stone in the beast market for this purpose, a large reservoir was discovered, which appeared to have been formed for supplying the town with water for domestic use; an article in which it is extremely deficient, from its elevated situation: the chief part of what is now used by the inhabitants, is brought in water-carts from Carisbrooke, and retailed from house to house. The charges, made on strangers at the principal inns, are exorbitant: indeed, this is generally the case throughout the Island, the inn-keepers appearing to consider all visitors as objects of prey.* On the streams in the vicinity of the town, are several corn-mills.

DR.

* Those who are disposed to survey the whole Island, commonly fix their head-quarters at Newport, from the certainty of procuring lodging. In this case, three principal routes are laid down, denominated, from their respective courses, the western, the north-eastern, and the south-eastern:

DR. THOMAS JAMES, a learned divine and antiquary, appears from Wood,* to have been born in this town about the year 1571. The tuition of his early years was obtained at Wyckham's College, Winchester, from which he was removed to New College, Oxford, and became so celebrated for his erudition, that he was esteemed 'a living library.' He was the first Keeper on the Bodleian foundation; in which office he assisted the great Camden in collecting materials for his Britannia. He was afterwards made Sub-Dean of Wells, and had other promotions. His knowledge in the Manuscript Fathers was very great; and Wood affirms, that "he was the most industrious and indefatigable writer against popery, that had been educated at Oxford since the Reformation." He died in August, 1629.

About one mile north from Newport, is that admirable institution, the HOUSE OF INDUSTRY; which originated in the year 1770, from a meeting of the principal inhabitants of the Isle of Wight, assembled for the purpose of discussing the best mode of providing relief for the poor. In this assembly, it was proposed to consolidate the rates of the different parishes; and to erect a building for the general reception of the poor, sufficiently large for all the purposes of residence, education, and employment. Application was accordingly made to Parliament for the necessary powers; and the design being approved, His Majesty was empowered to grant a lease of eighty acres of land in his forest of Parkhurst, for the term of 999 years, at the reserved annual rent of 8l. 17s. 9d. and renewable at a fine certain.

On this ground the *House of Industry* was immediately began: it consists of several ranges of building, of sufficient magnitude for the

* Athenæ Oxon. p. 537.

south-eastern: these, with a few shorter trips, include all the scenery and objects worthy of inspection in the Island, and may be travelled over in five or six days; though the roads are very indifferent, and in some parts absolutely impassable for carriages, except in the finest weather: this probably arises from the roads being repaired by statute law, as there are no turnpikes throughout the Island.

the reception and employment of nearly 700 people; connected with courts, a garden, &c. The principal building is 300 feet in length, and twenty-seven in breadth; with windows on both sides, to promote the free circulation of air; in this is a Dining-Hall, 118 feet long, a Store-Room, a Committee-Room, and many other apartments. About 200 feet from the west end, another building ranges southward, to an extent of 170 feet: in this, on the ground floor, are the School Rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, Bake-House, &c. and above them are various apartments, as lying-in rooms, sick wards, and twenty separate chambers, for married poor. At the end of this, and parallel with the main building, is another range, containing extensive workshops for the mechanics and manufacturers. Besides these, and within the inclosure, is a Chapel, and various offices; together with a Pest-house for those afflicted with contagious disorders; and a small building, erected a few years ago, for the admission of persons under inoculation.

The regulations and bye-laws by which this important establishment is governed, are excellently calculated to further the advancement of morals and of industry: even in an economical point of view, their effects have already greatly operated to the advantage of the community; the poor-rates having been decreased upwards of one half since the institution was planned. The sum borrowed for erecting the buildings, was 20,000l. chargeable with an interest of 800l. of this, upwards of one-third has been liquidated; and as the profits arising from the manufactures carried on here, has, of late years, amounted to nearly 200l. annually, there is every reason to imagine, that the whole will be discharged before the lapse of any great portion of time. The principal branches of manufacture are sacks for corn and flour; clothing, as kerseys, stockings, &c. dowlas sheeting; mops, shoes, and various other articles. The number of persons generally in the house at one period, varies from 500 to 550. Relief is also afforded to the families of the indigent, who, from local circumstances, do not require removal from their own abodes. Still further to promote the well-doing of society, an allowance of three guineas has been lately voted to "every servant in husbandry, day-laborer, and journeyman-mechanic,

chanic, on low wages, who shall marry the daughter of a cottager, or laborer." As this bounty is given with reference to the prevention of illicit intercourse, those who are known to have had any child born out of wedlock, are excluded from receiving it.

The entire management of this concern is vested in a Corporation, styled "The Guardians of the Poor within the Isle of Wight;" to which all persons are eligible who possess, in their own right, or in that of their wives, lands or property within the Island rated to the poor's-rate, at the yearly value of 50l. or are heirs apparent of such property, to the annual value of 100l. or are occupiers to the same amount; together with all rectors or vicars within the Island. From these twenty-four Directors, and thirty-six acting Guardians, are appointed, twelve of whom are removed on the last Thursday in June, annually, and their places filled by as many others who are eligible. These are divided and sub-divided into quarterly, monthly, and weekly committees; by which means the institution has the benefit of a regular superintendence of the best kind; that of the judicious, and the disinterested. The necessary officers for the internal government of the house, are appointed by the Directors and Guardians, and include a Governor, a Chaplain, a Steward, a Schoolmaster, a Matron, two Surgeons, a Secretary, &c. These have regular salaries; the only officer who fills a responsible situation without salary, is the Treasurer. That part of the eighty acres of land granted by His Majesty, which is not occupied by the buildings and garden, has been divided into fields, and cultivated with every appearance of success.

At a short distance south-west from the House of Industry, are the PARKHURST BARRACKS, and MILITARY HOSPITAL, which have been erected since the year 1778, and contain every requisite accommodation for upwards of 3000 soldiers. The Barracks consist of various ranges of building, running parallel with each other; and the principal of them measuring 163 feet and a half in length. The Hospital is formed by a centre, and two wings, with proper offices, as fumigating rooms, baths, &c. Great alterations have been lately made in this building, and many improvements have been effected. The whole inclosure occupies an

an extent of twenty acres; of which about two acres are appro- [illegible] the Hospital. The water for domestic purposes is pro- [illegible] four wells, of different depths, from 262 to 286 feet. [illegible]ets between the ranges of Barracks are forty feet wide. The magnitude and regularity of these buildings give them an important and dignified appearance.

The Forest of PARKHURST, within the limits of which the Barracks and Hospital are situated, occurs in the Domesday Book, under the appellation of *Parco Regis*, or the King's Park. It was afterwards denominated the King's Forest: and in an account of rents and disbursements of the twenty-third of Henry the Seventh, is a charge for salaries paid to a ranger and two under keepers. Courts of Swanimote were also held here, as appears by an ancient warrant from the Duke of Suffolk.

About one mile south-west from Newport is CARISBROOKE CASTLE, the most ancient and important fortress in the Island. It stands on a high and commanding situation, on a conical eminence, rising above the village of Carisbrooke, and occupying about twenty acres of ground. When it was originally founded is uncertain: some authors have attributed it to the Britons; and Lluyd says, there was a city here called *Caer-broc;* words signifying the city or town of yew-trees. Others suppose its origin to be Roman; among whom is Dr. Stukeley, who assigns its erection to his favorite Emperor, Carausius: and Warner mentions six Roman coins, as being in his own possession, of the Emperors Tiberius Cæsar, Germanicus, Vespasian, Maximianus, &c.* that were dug up in a field to the north of the Castle about sixty years ago.

The earliest historical notice, however, of Carisbrooke, occurs in the Saxon annals, under the year 530, when the Castle was besieged and taken by Cerdic, who, as already mentioned,† bestowed the government of the Isle on his nephews, Stuff and Withgar; the latter of whom is said to have rebuilt the Castle: this affirmation is supposed to be corroborated by the appearance of part of the wall of the base-court, which bears evident traces of a different origin to the other parts of the fortress. The

* History of the Isle of Wight, &c. Appendix. † See p. 335.



The most important era in the erection of this Castle, at least in its present form, was undoubtedly the time immediately succeeding the Norman Conquest; as we learn from that invaluable record, the Domesday Book, that the manor of Avington, of which it was anciently a part, was, in the time of Edward the Confessor, rated at two hides and a half; but in that of the Conqueror, at only two hides; because the "Castle stands upon one virgate." This is a clear proof that, whatever was the ancient state of this fortress, it must have been greatly enlarged between the decease of King Edward, and the period of the Domesday Survey; but whether by William Fitz-Osborne, the first Lord of the Island, or by Roger de Breteville, his son, may be questioned; though most writers attribute it to the former; yet, as he was slain on the Continent within four years of the Norman Invasion, it seems probable that the completion of the Castle must have been left to his son. Various alterations were made in subsequent reigns; and in the time of Queen Elizabeth the whole of the original works was surrounded by an extensive fortification, faced with stone, encompassed by a deep moat, and defended by five bastions. The additions and repairs that have since been made, chiefly regard the improvement of some of the interior parts, for the purposes of residence.

The walls of the Norman fortress, including the keep, which is probably more ancient, inclose about an acre and a half of ground, approaching in form to a rectangular parallelogram, with the angles rounded: these angles seem to have been rebuilt when the works were enlarged by Elizabeth, as that to the south-east has the date 1601. The keep occupies the summit of an artificial mount, between fifty and sixty feet high, situated near the north-east angle of the walls; this, as well as the walls, was defended by a surrounding foss. The form of the keep is an irregular polygon, about sixty feet broad in its widest part, with walls of great strength and thickness: some of the angles are strengthened by buttresses of hewn stone, evidently more modern than the other parts. A flight of seventy-two steps leads up the mount to the entrance, which was anciently defended by a strong double gate and portcullis. On the left, within the entrance, is a larger apart-

 ment,

ment, in which is a well, now partly filled up as dangerous, said to have been 300 feet deep. The upper apartments are wholly destroyed; though a small decayed stair-case yet remains, which led to the platform on the summit of the keep, from the ruined walls of which, is a very extensive and beautiful prospect, including great part of the Island, together with parts of the New Forest, and the Portsdown Hills. On this spot the Royal flag is displayed on days of public rejoicing, or when the Governor resides at the Castle. At the bottom of the mount was a sally-port, which appears to have been defended by a bastion, now destroyed.

The principal of the Norman works occupy the north-western angle of the area; to which, the entrance is on the west side, by a handsome machicolated gate, with grooves for a portcullis, flanked by two round towers: this is supposed to have been built by Lord Widville, in the time of Edward the Fourth, his arms being carved on a stone near the top, with the rose, the badge of the house of York, on each side. This leads to the more ancient entrance; the old gate of which, with its wicket of lattice-work, made of oak, and covered with bars of iron, still remains, and opens into the inner area; on entering which, the first objects that meet the eye on the right, are the ruins of a Guard-House, and the Chapel of St. Nicholas. The latter was built in the year 1738, on the site of a more ancient Chapel, that stood here at the period of the Domesday Survey, and had various lands bestowed for its support by the different proprietors of the Lordship. In this structure the Mayor and High Constables of Newport are annually sworn into office. On the opposite and north side, are the ruins of the buildings occupied by Charles the First during his imprisonment in this Castle: a small room, said to have been his bed-chamber, is still shown. Further on, extending from the north wall, towards the middle of the area, are the Barracks, and Governor's House. These buildings have been the work of very different periods; and so many alterations have been made in them, that the original form of construction is almost obliterated. Among the arms on different parts of the walls, are those of William Fitz-Osborne; Isabella de Fortibus; Montacute, Earl of Salisbury; and Sir George Carey.

The

The Governor's lodgings include several good apartments, with vaulted ceilings; they were improved, and made habitable, about the year 1700, by the then Governor, Lord Cutts; but having been afterwards neglected, were again repaired, and fitted up, by the present Lord Bolton.

At the south-west corner of the area, is a platform for cannon, made in the reign of Elizabeth: and near the centre of the south wall are the remains of a watch-tower. The ruins of another tower, called Montjoy's, though unquestionably part of the Norman fortress, stand at the south-east angle of the area: the walls are in some places eighteen feet thick, and the top may yet be ascended by a flight of decayed steps. On the east side are the remains of two other watch-towers, and some buildings formerly used as store-houses, &c. but now occupied as offices for the Governor's household. Near the centre of the area, under a small building, is a Well, 200 feet deep, supplying a very pure water for the use of the Castle.*

It seems evident that the fortification erected by Queen Elizabeth, must have been raised on the site of some outworks, or entrenchments, that had previously existed; as the space it includes is not more considerable in extent than the Castle itself is recorded to have occupied in the Domesday Book; that is, one virgate, or twenty acres. The entrance of this modern part corresponds with that of the original fortress, it being nearly opposite on the west side. Its form is that of an irregular pentagon, about three-quarters of a mile in circumference; the chief engineer was an Italian, named

* The water is raised by means of a tread-wheel, fifteen feet in diameter, worked by an *Ass*, who was promoted to his present office in the year 1798, on the death of one of his long-eared brethren, that had performed the same service twenty-six years. Another of these animals died in 1771, having patiently executed the duties of his station during the long period of forty-five years. When this well is shown to strangers, a curious experiment is generally made, by letting down a lighted lamp, which, in descending, occasions a strong sound, from the resistance of the air, like a hollow wind; and as the lamp rests upon the surface of the water, the walling of the well may be distinctly seen.

named Genebella,* who had been employed on the fortifications of Antwerp, to which these are said to bear considerable resemblance. The moat is crossed by a bridge, leading to the gate, which opens into the area; over it is a shield, with the date 1598, and the initials E. R. In the east part of this area, is the Place of Arms, a large open piece of ground, surrounded by a redoubt, or rampart, of considerable height: this was originally set apart for the purpose of training and exercising soldiers. The expense of the works raised in the time of Elizabeth, was partly defrayed by a subscription made by the inhabitants: those who could not afford money, are said to have contributed labor, so that the whole of the outer foss was excavated without any public charge.†

This Castle appears to have been the residence of the Lords of the Island from the very earliest period; and since it became the property of the Crown, it has been the constant seat of the Captains and Governors. Isabella de Fortibus resided here in great state and dignity; and her charter to Newport is dated from this place. Here also the will of Philippa, Duchess of York, who died in the ninth of Henry the Sixth, was opened; in which she styles herself Lady of the Isle of Wight.

The adventitious lustre reflected on this fortress, from its having been the scene of the imprisonment of Charles the First, has already been intimated; and there are yet some further circumstances relating to his confinement here that require detail. Among the books that served for the amusement of his lonesome hours, were Hooker's Ecclesiastical Polity, Tasso's Jerusalem, and Spencer's Fairie Queen: these, with the Sacred Scriptures, and some works on religious subjects, formed nearly the whole of his library. Stated hours were set apart for devotion and writing; and his *Suspiria Regalia*, the manuscript of which was found among his books, is thought to have been composed during his captivity. His

* Manuscripts of Sir John Oglander.

† In Sir R. Worsley's Hist. Appendix, No. xviii. is a very interesting and curious paper of all the various items of expense incurred in strengthening the Castle at this period.

His mornings, in the early part of his confinement, were generally employed in walking on the ramparts; and many persons obtained access to him at these times, under pretence of being touched for the King's Evil. The subsequent rigour of his imprisonment may be attributed to the attempts made to effect his rescue.

The second attempt, and which seems to have failed through the King's own inadvertency, is related at length in Herbert's Memoirs: from these it appears, that a correspondence had been secretly commenced with some gentlemen of the Island, and it was determined that Charles should let himself down by a cord from his chamber-window; and again from the top of the ramparts; under which a swift horse, with a guide, were to be placed in readiness, to convey him to a vessel purposely stationed at the sea side. The chief difficulty in the scheme, was the narrow space between the bars; but Charles affirmed that he had tried the passage, and did not doubt but that it was sufficiently large. The preparations were therefore completed; the hour of enterprize was come, the concerted signal was given, and Charles attempted to force himself through the window; but though he found an easy passage for his head, he stuck fast in endeavoring to portrude his neck and shoulders, and for some time he could neither advance nor retreat. His groans were heard by his friends below; but nothing could be done to relieve him; at length, by repeated efforts, he forced himself back, and immediately placed a candle in the window, as an intimation that the design was frustrated.

As this attempt was not discovered at the time, it was again resolved to have recourse to the same means; and files and aqua-fortis were conveyed to the King from London, for the purpose of removing the impediments that had before obstructed his escape. Some intelligence had, however, been received by Hammond, which occasioned a more strict degree of watchfulness; and Major Rolfe, by pretending to be in the King's interest, obtained the confidence of some of the persons concerned, and of course, was made acquainted with the plan. The night was however fixed; and Charles was getting through the window, when perceiving more persons beneath it than he expected, he drew back, and re-

tired to bed. Soon afterwards the Governor entered the chamber; and Charles found that the scheme had miscarried. The gentlemen who had been concerned, escaped with much difficulty; and Charles himself appears to have been in great danger, as Major Rolfe exhibited a charged pistol, declaring that he had resolved to shoot the King with it as he descended from the window. The seizure of Charles at Newport has been already related: on his way to the sea-side he met Sir E. Worsley, one of the gentlemen who had endeavored to aid his escape, and presented him with his watch, as a token of his remembrance and gratitude.*

The village of CARISBROOKE is pleasantly situated on the banks of a rivulet, at the bottom of the Castle-Hill, but retains few other vestiges of its former consequence, as a market-town, and the capital of the Island, than what are displayed in its *Church*, and even that was originally more extensive than at present. This structure occupies the site of a more ancient edifice, of Saxon origin, and was built by William Fitz-Osborne, and given by him, with several others, to the Abbey of Lyra, in Normandy, of which he was also the founder. It consists of a body and south aisle, with a handsome embattled tower; the north aisle and chancel have long been destroyed. Near the altar is part of a monumental stone, rudely carved, with the figure of the head and upper part of the body of an ecclesiastic, with a book and paschal staff; supposed to represent one of the Priors of Carisbrooke. Against the north wall is a monument of the time of Henry the Seventh, in memory of the Lady of Sir Nicholas Wadham, who was Captain of this Island in that reign: the lady is represented kneeling at a desk, in the attitude of prayer; at the back of the tomb are six small figures, represented as cripples, in allusion to the charity of the deceased: this monument is much mutilated. In the body of the Church is a wooden tablet, in memory of CAPTAIN WILLIAM

* This watch is still preserved in the family: it is of silver, large and clumsy in its form, but the case neatly ornamented with fillagree. The movements are of very ordinary workmanship, and the spring is wound up with catgut. *Gilpin's Western Observations*, p. 324.

WILLIAM KEELING, who is represented sitting on the deck of a ship, with a crown of glory suspended over him: *Fides* is written on the sail; on the compass, *verbum Dei;* and on the anchor, *Spes*. The inscription below the ship informs us, that he died in 1619, having been Groom of the Chamber to James the First, and General for the Honorable East India Adventurers; it concludes thus:

> Fortie and two years in this vessel fraile,
> On the rough Seas of Life, did Keeling sail;
> A merchant fortunate, a Captain bould,
> A courtier gracious, yet, alas, not old.
> Such wealth, experience, honour, and high praise,
> Few winne in twice so manie years or daies.
> But what the world admired he deemed but drosse
> For Christ; without Christ all his gains but losse:
> For him and his dear love, with merrie cheere,
> To the Holy Land his last course he did steere:
> *Faith* served for sails; the *Sacred Word* for card;
> *Hope* was his anchor; *Glory* his reward:
> And thus with gales of Grace by happy venter,
> Through Straits of Death, Heav'ns Harbor he did enter.

The PRIORY of Carisbrooke, which stood near the Church, had also William Fitz-Osborne for its founder; and was equally appropriated to the Abbey of Lyra; and became a Cell of Benedictines to that foundation. Edward the Third granted it to the Abbey of Mont-grace, in Yorkshire; but Henry the Fourth restored it to the Monks of Lyra. In the reign of Henry the Fifth, it was again seized, with the other Alien Priories, and granted to the Abbey of Sheen, in Surrey, to which it continued annexed till the general Dissolution. Few vestiges of the monastic buildings remain; and those are chiefly confined to the out-houses and barns of what is still called the Priory-Farm: the shell of one of these buildings is 100 feet long, and twenty-five feet broad; the walls are richly mantled with ivy.

GATCOMBE HOUSE, formerly the seat of the younger branches of the Worsley family, but now the residence of A. Camp-

bell, Esq. is beautifully situated on the declivity of a hill, about two miles southward from Carisbrooke Castle. Some fine timber and coppice wood ornament the grounds; and the scenery derives interest from the contiguity of the river Medina, which flows on the east side. The house is a regular square building of stone, erected by Sir E. Worsley in the year 1750. Near it is GATCOMBE *Church*, in the chancel of which, in a recess of the north wall, is an ancient and curious effigies of a Knight carved in oak, supposed to represent the founder of the Church.

The manor of GODSHILL was anciently part of the lands of the Abbey of Lyra, and its Church was one of the six given to that House by William Fitz-Osborne; but after passing through various hands, it has become the property of Sir Richard Worsley by purchase. The Church is an ancient building, in the form of a cross, occupying the summit of an eminence, and commanding some fine prospects. Here are various monuments of the Worsleys, and other families: among them, under a richly sculptured arch, are the recumbent effigies of SIR JOHN LEIGH, and MARY his Lady, the daughter and heiress of John Hacket, Esq. who died in the reign of Henry the Eighth. On the borders of the Lady's robe are the arms of the Hackets, and on each side of her is a child: above the arch are three angels holding shields. Near this is the monument of SIR JAMES WORSLEY, and ANNE his wife, daughter of the above: their figures are represented kneeling under an architrave, supported by two Ionic pillars. The next monument commemorates SIR ROBERT WORSLEY, who died in 1747; and his brother, HENRY WORSLEY, Esq. who was Governor of Barbadoes, and died in March, 1740: their busts are placed on a sarcophagus: the pediment is supported by pillars of marble veined, with the figures of Hope and Fortitude on the sides. Here is also a mural monument to the memory of CAPTAIN RICHARD WORSLEY, son of Sir James, who died in May, 1565: on this is a long inscription in Latin, containing various historical particulars of the family.

APPULDURCOMBE, the principal seat of the Worsley family, and now the property and residence of Sir Richard Worsley, Bart.

is about one mile south-east from Godshill. Its name is derived from the British words, *Y pwll y dwr y cwm;* signifying the pool of water in the hollow or recess of a hill. The manor was anciently part of the possessions of the Abbey of Montsbury, in Normandy; and, after passing through several families, became the property of Sir James Worsley, of Worsley Hall, in Lancashire, by marriage with Anne, daughter of Sir John Leigh, of More, in Derbyshire, from whom it has descended to the present owner. The Worsleys trace their descent to Sir Elias de Workesley, who attended Robert, Duke of Normandy, in his expedition to the Holy Land, and died and was interred in the Isle of Rhodes.

A PRIORY was founded here in the Norman times, and was given to the Abbey of Montsbury, by Richard de Redvers, Earl of Devon. Henry the Fourth granted it, during a war with France, to the Nuns without Aldgate, in London, who afterwards obtained a grant of all its lands, including Appuldurcombe, Sandford, and Week, from the above Abbey. The *Old Priory-House*, which appears to have been a venerable building,* was thoroughly repaired in the reign of Elizabeth, and made a family residence; probably by Sir Francis Walsingham, who married the widow of Sir James Worsley, and held these estates in her right. It was taken down in the beginning of the last century by Sir Robert Worsley, who, according to his own phrase, 'left not one stone standing.' by him, in the year 1710, the present mansion was begun at a short distance from the old Priory. he died, however, before it was completed; and it remained in a very unfinished state till it came into the possession of Sir R. Worsley, who has made considerable additions, and in several instances, departed from the original design.

The situation of this house is extremely fine: it stands in a spacious park, in the midst of an amphitheatre of hills, commanding various extensive and grand prospects: the slope which forms the back-ground, is ornamented with beeches of great size, interspersed with large and venerable oaks. The mansion itself is built with

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* See the Engraving opposite p. 181, in Sir R. Worsley's History of the Isle of Wight.

free-stone, and, from its magnitude and situation, assumes an air of considerable grandeur, though the singularity of its construction detracts from its magnificence. It has four fronts, of the Corinthian order, with projecting buildings adjoining to each front, and finished with pilasters and pediments of Portland stone: the principal entrance is on the east side.

The interior of this mansion is most superbly decorated with sculptures, paintings, and drawings, most of which were collected by the present owner in a tour through Italy, Spain, Greece, Egypt, Asia Minor, and Turkey, during the years 17[illegible] and 1787. The collection was made at a vast expense, Sir Richard having freighted a ship for himself and suite, and engaged some excellent Artists to accompany him. The marbles and paintings are principally arranged in the Entrance Hall, and the apartments on the [illegible] Floor; most of the drawings are preserved in portfolios. The Hall, which is fifty-four feet long, and twenty-four broad, is decorated with eight Ionic columns of a composition resembling porphyry. Here many of the sculptures are displayed, intermixed with paintings, the judicious arrangement of which exhibits great taste. The most eminent of these valuables will now be described, under their appropriate heads, without regard to the apartments in which they are placed.

Among the MARBLES is a most beautiful group of *Bacchus* and his mythological favourite Acratus, winged as a Genius, a *Cupid* found under the Colonna at Rome, and supposed to be an antique copy of the bronze obtained by a stratagem from Praxiteles by Phryne, *Asclepia*, the Priestess of Diana, with a curious inscription on the plinth, demonstrative of her nature and office, *Hercules Ebrius* found in Egypt, represented crowned with flowers and ribbons, an *Egyptian Priest*, in basaltes, a fragment of an *Egyptian Idol*, *Canephora*, found at Eleusis, two *Antique Chairs*, which originally belonged to the celebrated Fulvius Ursinus, an Hermean statue of *Sophocles*, found at Athens, *Alcibiades*, from the same place, *Anacreon*, *Pherecydes*, the Philosopher, cotemporary with Thales, a bust of *Hercules Juvenis*, with falling locks on each side of the head, which is covered with the lion's skin, *Achilles*, a bust dug up in the

the Campagna of Rome; *Attilius Regulus*, a bust; a group of *Nilus*, in small, resembling that formerly in the Capitol; a bust of *Sappho*; a bust of *Jupiter*, finely sculptured; an Herma of *Hercules*, with a close Beard; *Jupiter* and *Minerva* receiving the vows of an Athenian, a basso-relievo, supposed to have been part of a frieze designed by Phidias, for the Pantheon at Athens; a basso-relievo of an antique *Syren*; a fragment of the *Eleusinian Mysteries*, found at Eleusis; a basso-relievo of *Pluto*, with a youth standing before him, extremely curious, from displaying representations [illegible] kinds of cups used for consecrating wine; a fine specimen of the antique Terra-cotta, representing in basso-relievo, a *Man, and Three young Women*, washing the statue of the Deity of Lampsacus with a sponge; a large and very beautifully-sculptured basso-relievo of a *Bull*, the *Ma[illegible] Victima* of Virgil, found in Magna Græcia, near the ruins of Crotona, and thought to have belonged to some ancient temple; a basso-relievo of a *Young Woman caressing Doves*, found in the Isle of Paros, and conjectured to be the work of Praxiteles; a tripod belonging to the monument of Lysicrates, at Athens; and a fragment found at the Sigæan Promontory, representing an *Aunt* and *Niece* waiting the answer of the Oracle.*

The following PAINTINGS are of the very first degree of merit; the whole assemblage, indeed, is extremely fine.

HENRY THE EIGHTH, on pannel; Holbein: this was given by Henry himself to Sir James Worsley, then Governor of the Isle of Wight, after a visit to Sir James at Appuldurcombe.

CHARLES BRANDON, Duke of Suffolk, and MARY, his wife, the Queen Dowager of France; small, on pannel; Mabuse: both these pieces are mentioned in Walpole's Anecdotes.

EDWARD THE SIXTH; Holbein: a very curious small picture, in which Edward is depicted as very young, with a rattle in his hand.

* Two very sumptuous volumes, descriptive of these Marbles, in Italian and English, with engravings, have been printed by Sir Richard Worsley; but are not to be purchased: a copy is preserved in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries, Somerset-Place.

SIR HENRY NEVILLE, of Billingbeer; on pannel; Cornelius Jansen: Sir Henry was Ambassador from Queen Elizabeth to the Court of France; and father to FRANCES, who married Sir Richard Worsley in the reign of James the First, and whose portrait, by the same artist, is also preserved here.

PHILIP HERBERT, Earl of Pembroke, a small whole length; Vandyck.

WALTER, Earl of Essex, with the date 1572; Zuccharo.

ROXALANA, in the Georgian dress, half-length, Gentili Bellini. Roxalana was a Venetian, and was married to Soliman the Second, after having lived several years with him. Bellini painted this portrait at Constantinople, whither he had been sent for the purpose by the Doge of Venice, at the request of Soliman. she died in the year 1561.

PHILIP THE FOURTH of Spain, and his Queen ISABELLA of Bourbon, whole lengths, on horseback; Velasquez these pictures were brought from Granada; both of them have been finely etched.

POPE ALEXANDER THE SIXTH, a fine head; Titian. this also was brought from Granada, where Alexander was born.

AMBROSIO CARADOSSO, the friend of Raphael, Engraver to Pope Julius the Second; Raphael.

Head of one of the MEDICI family; Carlo Dolci.

THOMAS HOBBES, the Philosopher of Malmsbury; Vandyck.

Six Landscapes, with Figures; Zuccharelli: extremely fine.

Two Landscapes, Berghem; and one ditto, Garalfi.

The Saviour, and St. John Baptist, embracing; Raphael.

Consecration of a Bishop; Tintoretto: the figures in this piece are as large as life: Paul the Third is represented as officiating

Cleopatra applying the asp; Murillo. This was presented to Sir R. Worsley by a Spanish nobleman, whose family had possessed it for upwards of a century. The composition is extremely beautiful, and singularly expressive of these lines in Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra:

> Peace! Peace!
> Dost thou not see my baby at my breast,
> That sucks its nurse asleep?

Joseph

Joseph with the infant Christ; Titian: a very valuable picture.

St. Catherine; Murillo.

Daniel in the Lions' Den; Rubens.

The Stoning of St. Stephen; Titian: a very fine painting, and in excellent preservation.

Nymph and Satyr; Rubens.

Susannah and the Elders; Guercino.

A View in Italy; Gas. Poussin. the figures by N. Poussin.

Portrait of a Lady; Rubens.

A Madona; Guido.

A Dead Christ; Annibal Caracci.

The DRAWINGS are very numerous: among them are two Views of Athens; the Head of the Sphinx, and the Pyramids at Alexandria; the Pits where the Mummies are obtained near Cairo; the Ruins of the Gymnasium, at Alexandria; Troas, in Asia Minor; the Aqueduct of Justinian, near Constantinople; View of Constantinople, and the Harbour called the Golden Horn; Ruins of the Honmarian, near Smyrna; Ruins of Hierapolis, in Upper Phrygia; and Ruins of a Grand Temple at Corinth: most of these drawings are executed upon a large scale.

The attractions at Appuldurcombe are not confined to the interior of the mansion; the Park is well stocked with deer; and the grounds are disposed with much beauty, independent of the advantages they have derived from Nature. The prospects also from the eminences are extremely fine, and comprehend a great portion of the Isle of Wight, as well as Spithead, Portsmouth, and the adjacent parts of Hampshire. The artificial ruins called *Cooke's Castle*, which stand on a rocky cliff at a considerable distance to the east, form a good object from various points of view. On the summit of the principal eminence in the Park, is an obelisk of Cornish granite, nearly seventy feet high, erected to the memory of Sir Robert Worsley, by the present Baronet.

About two miles directly south from Appuldurcombe Park, on the sea-shore, in one of the most beautiful parts of the Island, near the Church of St. Lawrence, is an elegant COTTAGE, built a few years ago by Sir Richard Worsley, and surrounded by grounds

grounds of an extremely romantic and picturesque character. Bold fragments of jutting rocks, irregular lawns, a crystal rivulet, and natural groups of fine elms, combine to give interest to the scenery; and still more to attract attention, on this spot is found the only VINEYARD in England. This has been raised by Sir Richard under the inspection of a French *Vigneron*, who commenced his operations in the year 1792, and the plants were put in the March following: it consists of two plantations, occupying about three acres of ground, sheltered from all unfriendly blasts by a high range of rocky hills. The vines, which are of the white Muscadine and Plant Verd sorts, are planted in beds twelve feet wide; being so arranged as to leave a foot and a half between each plant. The stems are about eight inches high, with two shoots on each stem, which are regularly cut off every spring, and their places supplied by other young ones; the shoots are kept at the length of two feet, or two feet and a half: a light white wine is made from the grapes. The novelty of this plantation, and the peculiar beauty of the coast, have attracted numerous visitants to this part of the Island.

The *Church* of St. Lawrence is the smallest in the Island, and perhaps in the whole Kingdom, its length being not more than twenty feet, and its breadth only twelve. The greatest part of this parish consists of a slip of land, extending about a mile and a half along the sea shore, and forming part of the romantic tract called UNDERCLIFF, which reaches from a small house, called Knowles, on the west, to Bonchurch on the east; a distance of nearly six miles. Above this singular region, the downs terminate abruptly in a steep precipice of limestone rock, which accompanies the Undercliff through its whole length, in an almost uninterrupted line, assuming the appearance of an immense stone wall, particularly when seen from any distance. The general elevation of this precipitous descent is from ninety to one hundred and twenty feet: the tract of land immediately beneath it extends to the sea, varying in breadth, from a quarter to three quarters of a mile, or upwards. "Through this interval of rock and water, colossal fragments of stone, torn or sunk from the precipice by some great convulsion of nature,

nature, lie scattered in the most irregular confusion. These solid masses are of such a ponderous magnitude, that they form eminences of the most capricious shapes; while the intermediate spaces become deep vallies, in which houses are built, and even ashes and elms are seen to flourish, sheltered from the storms and the spray of the sea, by the hospitable and lofty shades of these fragments. Every spot of this land, that can bear the impression of a plough, is uncommonly fertile, and well cultivated; but the fruitful patches are of all sizes and figures; and huge rocks, covered with briars, frequently arise from amidst a polygon inclosure of two or three acres."* The inequalities and rapid descents of many of the spots thus cultivated, occasion the ploughing them to be a work of considerable difficulty; and five or six horses are in some places necessary for that purpose. Many fresh separations from the precipices are visible; and the huge fragments beneath, frequently discover, by their form, the situations from which they have fallen. The road below the cliff is stony and irregular; but every inconvenience is compensated by the grandeur of the scenery. In some particular situations, a very distinct echo is returned from these rocks, even to the repetition of four syllables.

About a mile from St. Lawrence is another beautiful retreat, called STEEPHILL, now inhabited by the Earl of Dysart, but formerly belonging to the late Hans Stanley, Esq. who built the Cottage when Governor of this Isle. It stands on one of the dismembered rocks before described, nearly half way between the base of the precipice and the sea; and though small, is fitted up with much elegance. Some beautiful sea-pieces, by Vandevelde, ornament the interior. The cliffs, which are here covered with shrubs and coppice-wood, afford a fine and umbrageous canopy over the walks that have been formed beneath. The grounds are laid out with great taste. This part of the coast abounds with shell-fish of every kind; and vast quantities of crabs and lobsters are annually taken in the summer-season: the crab-pots, as they are called, are a sort of baskets made of wicker. The sun-fish is sometimes caught on this shore. A few

* Wyndham's Picture of the Isle of Wight.

A few yards below, and almost under the Steephill Cottage, is the *New Inn*, where parties usually refresh themselves beneath the spreading foliage of a luxuriant fig-tree. From Steephill the country begins to wear a more open and cultivated appearance, but scarcely less romantic; the precipitous wall is succeeded by a rapid verdant slope of much greater elevation, trodden only by sheep, and in one part forcing the road to a narrow and tremendous pass, on the brink of a mouldering cliff, where a few ragged rails seem hardly sufficient to secure the traveller from danger. On doubling this point, the hamlet of VENTNOR presents itself, formed by a range of neat cottages, chiefly inhabited by fishermen, open to the sea in front, and backed by woods, and the high downs of St. Boniface. The situation of *Ventnor Mill* is well known to all the tourists of this Island, from its highly picturesque situation: it is worked by a small stream, which rises about a quarter of a mile above, and, after passing the mill-dam, falls in a cascade upon the beach.

The COTTAGE of ST. BONIFACE is finely seated at the foot of the steep and mountainous eminence of the same name, on a small level plain. This was the property of the late Colonel Hill, who obtained it by marriage with an heiress of a branch of the Popham family: the grounds are disposed with much judgment, and possess great natural beauty. In front of the Cottage are several long ranges of rock, covered with coppice-wood; and admitting some partial views of the sea. At a short distance is a *Spring*, the virtues of which were formerly held in such high repute, that even seamen were accustomed to lower the fore-topmast on sailing past this place.

In approaching the village of ST. BONIFACE, or BONCHURCH, as it has long been corruptly termed, the scenery assumes a very different character: "the smooth declivity of the down is abruptly changed to a dreary and romantic waste of craggy, broken, and almost naked rocks; not of the magnitude of those between St. Lawrence and Steephill, but such as may be expected on the side of a mountain, where one great stone is checked in its progress by the projection of another, that is firm enough to resist its further fall.

fall. This is the leading feature of the higher parts of this small parish; the lower parts consist of the same stupendous fragments as are seen in the other spots of the Undercliff, on some of which arise isolated and natural pyramids."*

BONCHURCH COTTAGE, the property of —— Haffield, Esq. stands in a most romantic situation: nearly opposite, is a singular rock, abruptly starting from the ground; on this, the proprietor of the cottage has erected a prospect seat, giving it the appearance of a small fort. The village *Church* is embosomed in fine trees: it is a small building, displaying marks of antiquity, particularly in a semicircular arch at the entrance.

Bonchurch was the birth-place of the gallant ADMIRAL HOBSON, who having been left an orphan at a very early age, was apprenticed to a taylor; but disliking his situation, and inspired by the sight of a squadron of men of war coming round Dun-nose, he suddenly quitted his work, ran to the beach, jumped into the first boat he saw, and plied his oars so skilfully, that he quickly reached the Admiral's ship, where he entered as a sea-boy. Within a day or two afterwards, they met a French squadron; and during the action that ensued, while the Admiral and his antagonist were engaged yard-arm and yard-arm, young Hobson contrived to get on board the enemy's ship unperceived, and struck and carried off the French flag: at the moment when he regained his own vessel, the British tars shouted 'Victory,' without any other cause than that the enemy's colors had disappeared. The French crew, thrown into confusion by this event, ran from their guns, and while the officers were ineffectually endeavoring to rally them, the British seamen boarded their ship, and forced them to surrender. At this juncture, Hobson descended from the shrouds with the French flag wrapped round his arm; and, after triumphantly exhibiting his prize to the seamen on the main-deck, he was ordered to the quarter-deck, where the Admiral complimented him on his bravery, and assured him of his protection. From this period his promotion was rapid; and having passed through the inferior ranks of

* Wyndham's Isle of Wight, p. 81.

of the service with much credit, he was made Admiral; and so great was the confidence which his Sovereign, Queen Anne, reposed in his discretion, that she gave him the command of a squadron, with a commission to cruize as his own judgment dictated.

The rude promontory of DUN-NOSE presents its craggy heights beyond Bonchurch, and, by precluding all passage along the shore, obliges the traveller to climb a steep and zig-zag road, that has been formed with much labor through the huge masses of disjointed rock, which lie scattered over the acclivity in all directions. On ascending the hill, and passing through some of the large and fertile fields on its summit, the eye is attracted by the chasm called LUCCOMBE CHINE: the sides of this ravine are clothed with shrubs and brush-wood; and at the bottom runs a stream of fine water, which, at the termination of the Chine, forms a small cascade. Before so much attention was given to prevent illicit trade, Luccombe Chine was the favorite haunt of smugglers; and many thousand pounds worth of property are known to have been securely concealed in its recesses.

The next remarkable object on this coast is SHANKLIN CHINE, a chasm of a similar description to that of Luccombe, but on a more enlarged scale; and, in consequence, assuming a greater proportion of magnificence and grandeur. It commences about half a mile from the shore, and gradually increasing in breadth and depth, becomes, where it opens to the sea, nearly sixty yards wide, and ninety deep. Through the depths of the cavity flows the Shanklin rivulet, which rises to the south of the village, and, after supplying the inhabitants with its pellucid waters, hurries down the Chine, and in one part forms a fall of about twenty feet. On rocky ledges, of different elevations near the mouth of the ravine, are two picturesque cottages; near the lowermost of which, a winding path, and some irregular stone steps, lead the venturous traveller to the sea-shore. In some places, the water is almost concealed from sight, by the quantity of shrubs, briars, dwarf trees, and under-wood, which fringe the interior of the chasm.

"Exclusive



"Exclusive of the Chine of Shanklin," observes Mr. Wyndham, "which is deservedly ranked among the principal objects of the Island, the parish itself invites the attention of every observing passenger; for though not large, the neatness of every cottage; the park-like lawns through which the shady current meanders to the Chine; the acclivities around them, enriched with coppices, and with respectable ashes and oaks; and the mountainous range of its coast," form a variety of fine prospects, of striking beauty and contrast.

It has been frequently asserted, and that with an air of great confidence, that SHANKLIN DOWN, which rises to the south-west of the village, has considerably increased both in bulk and height within the last sixty or seventy years: Warner mentions it as a *well-known fact;* and other writers corroborate his testimony. The increase in its elevation is said to be at least 'one hundred feet;' as demonstrated by its appearance from St. Catherine's, from which, within the memory of man, it was not to be discovered, through the intervention of Week Down, but is now seen rising above the latter from the same spot, to the full height above mentioned.

SANDOWN COTTAGE, formerly the elegant retreat of the late John Wilkes, Esq. the chief star in the political horizon during the administration of the Earl of Bute, is situated near the shore of Sandown Bay, which extends about six miles, the eastern extremity being terminated by the chalky cliffs of Culver, and the south-western by the craggy rocks of the mountainous point of Dun-nose. The house is small, and elegantly fitted up: in the gardens are some detached and pleasant apartments, constructed with floor-cloth of the Kensington manufacture: these were ornamented with much neatness and classic taste by the late owner. The grounds are extremely pleasant, though not extensive. Immediately adjoining to the south-west, a range of BARRACKS has been erected for the accommodation of 300 men.

About half a mile eastward from the Cottage, is SANDOWN FORT, a regular quadrangular fortification, flanked with four bastions, situated on the level of the beach, and encompassed by a ditch. This was built in the reign of Henry the Eighth; yet

having been greatly neglected after the rise of the English navy, it became ruinous; but has of late years been repaired, and strengthened, at the expense of Government, and also placed on the military establishment: it is now the most considerable fort in the Island. During the American War, it was attacked by several privateers, though without effect.

CULVER CLIFFS, which rise to the height of 600 feet, and terminate the south-eastern extremity of Bimbridge Down, are supposed to derive their name from the Saxon *Culvre*, signifying a pigeon: numerous flocks of this species, as well as other kinds of birds, breed in the precipitous recesses of the Cliffs; which were also famous for a peculiar breed of hawks, now less plentiful than formerly. An eagle's nest was likewise taken on these steeps so lately as the year 1780, by one of the gatherers of *Samphire*, which grows here in abundance.

At the eastern part of the Cliffs, about fifty or sixty feet below the summit, is a natural hollow, called the HERMIT'S HOLE, the path to which is steep, narrow, and rugged; only fit to be trod by those who are accustomed to explore the recesses of these craggy eminences. This opening is but of small extent, and scarcely repays the difficulty of reaching it, unless the idea of danger may be supposed to give point to the interest. The Cliffs command the whole sweep of Sandown Bay, with Shanklin and Dun-nose in the distance. The views from the summit of BIMBRIDGE DOWN are peculiarly fine, and in some respects superior to those from any other part of the Island; particularly at the time of high water, when Brading Harbour resembles an extensive lake, surrounded with gentle slopes, covered with wood. The northern prospects comprehend St. Helen's Road, Spithead, and the neighbouring shores of Hampshire. The peninsula of Bimbridge is extremely fertile, and well cultivated.

The Manor of WAVERLAND was anciently part of the possessions of Sir Thomas de Aula, whose heiress conveyed it to the Russels, by marriage, in the reign of Edward the First. In the time of Henry the Sixth, it passed by an heiress to Stephen Hatfield; and again devolving to females, was purchased, in the first of Queen

